

THE TIMES
TOMORROW

Do children pick up knacks more quickly today than they did at the turn of the century? Spectrum examines the controversial new theory of "morphic resonance" as expounded by Dr Rupert Sheldrake. Friday Page looks at role swapping in families stricken by male redundancy, and Medical Briefing asks whether vampirism is taken seriously enough.

Argentine trip ends in anger

The ship carrying relatives of Argentine servicemen killed in the Falklands conflict headed to Buenos Aires amid reports of anger on board over the failure to visit war graves on the islands.

One Argentine journalist called the trip a "catastrophe", and reports spoke of growing confrontation between the relatives and Señor Destefanis, the organizer, and friction between the ship's crew and accompanying journalists.

Shipyard sit-in threatened

Shipbuilding workers' leaders have said that, unless the employers reverse their decision to make at least 9,000 workers redundant, they will call on the employees to occupy the yards

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Second quake

A second tremor, measuring 4.4 on the Richter scale, sent people running into the streets in Coalinga, California, but it caused little further damage. Monday's earthquake destroyed at least a third of the town's buildings.

Italian election

President Pertini of Italy dissolved Parliament in preparation for an early general election in June. This comes after the collapse of the four-party coalition Government led by Signor Amintore Fanfani.

Envoy's expelled

The Iranian Foreign Ministry told 18 Soviet diplomats serving at the embassy in Tehran and elsewhere that they had to leave the country within 48 hours. Party names, page 8



Seaside rift

Mr Brian Rix, secretary-general of Menap, who attended a conference aiming to heal a bitter dispute over the number of mentally handicapped visitors to a holiday resort, Page 3

Substitute Lion

Steve Bainbridge, the England and Gostforth lock forward, replaces Donal Lenihan, of Ireland, who has a hernia, in the British Lions party who leave today for a tour of New Zealand

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Leader page 13
Letters: Our courts from Mr S C Silkin, QC, MP; pensions from Lord Byers; cable TV from Mr W L A Hayes

Leading articles: Andropov's arms proposal; Local elections; Sotheby's Features, pages 10-12

William Whitelaw replies to critics of prison policy; matters of life and death by Bernard Levin; Ronald Butt on Christianity and CND; Modern Times meets some Americans who have made their homes in London and discover what it is about the British way of life that makes them feel at home

Books, page 11
Anthony Quinton reviews The Squandered Peace; Richard Holmes on Seizing Sassoon; Philip Howard on the Lytton Hart-Davis letters; Gore Vidal, first novels; science fiction; Bryon Rogers on the last Prince of Wales

Obituary, page 14
Sir Richard Le Gallais, Wing Cdr E W Anderson

Pensions. A four-page Special Report surveys what is happening in occupational, earnings-related and personal schemes for incomes for retirement.

Pages V-IV

Westminster swept by fresh attack of election fever

By Our Political Staff

A fresh attack of general election frenzy seemed to have afflicted politicians at Westminster yesterday, in spite of an apparent attempt to discourage expectation of an announcement within the next few days.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, called off an engagement in Glasgow next Tuesday in order to be in London in case the Prime Minister decides to end the speculation on that day.

But in an exclusive interview with *The Times* today, Mrs Margaret Thatcher said by her refusal to be hustled into an early decision, saying that she does not want to close any options.

No announcement will be made at least until the Prime Minister and her Cabinet colleagues have had a chance to discuss the results of the local government elections which take place today.

Mr Roy Jenkins, leader of the Social Democratic Party, who would also have been in Scotland next Tuesday, is reconsidering his programme.

"We have to be alert for an announcement early next week," he said last night.

At Conservative Central Office carpenters and decorators who have been working on the plush refurbishment of the conference room which will be used for the daily press conferences during the election campaign have been told that they are expected to have it finished within a week to 10 days.

Lady Young, leader of the House of Lords, speaking at a reception to launch the agenda for the Conservative women's conference on May 20 and 21, said that it could not take place if there was a June election.

Tories hope for low local poll

By David Walker
Local Government Correspondent

Party officials on all sides yesterday predicted only a light turnout for the local elections which are taking place in 369 district councils throughout England and Wales today.

A low turnout would be good news for the Conservatives for it would be a sign that high levels of unemployment were not a major issue at elections.

Party professionals were generally ultra-cautious over today's polling, which looks unlikely to produce much change in the political geography, however much significance the pseudosocialist place on the final voting percentages.

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British Airways in return to profit

By David Young

British Airways, which in the past year has converted a loss of £118m into a profit of £72m, will become the main thrust of the next Conservative Government's de-nationalization plans when its accounts move into the black by £250.

Sir John King, who was appointed by the Prime Minister to restore the state airline to profitability, yesterday had his appointment extended to next May.

Opponents of privatization of British Airways - described as the "Jewel in the crown" of the Government's holdings in industry - say that its return to profit has been at the cost of massive redundancies and the sale of aircraft, and the sale of its profitable international Astarid subsidiary.

British Airways say that redundancies costs have already been budgeted for, the sale of five TriStar aircraft for £50m to the Government for conversion to RAF tankers was not profitable, and that that £50m realized by the sale of International Astarid was not included in the present accounts.

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Royal guard: The Queen, framed by Yeoman Warders, yesterday opening the first stage of the Wall Walk, which runs around the Tower of London. (Photograph: Brian Morris).

The Hitler Diaries

First instalment discloses details of Hess plan

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Stern magazine begins publication today of the controversial Hitler diaries, maintaining in its first instalment on Rudolf Hess that his flight to Scotland in 1941 was secretly conceived in 1939 and specifically approved by Hitler.

In a lengthy account that draws on the special volume *Hess keeps an Hitler affair*, *Stern* says the two men had agreed on the flight as an attempt to sign a separate peace with England before the dictator's deputy, a former fighter pilot, took off in his Messerschmitt from Augsburg on May 10, 1941.

According to Hitler's account, entitled "The Plan", he had already worked out three scenarios, which he noted down as:

1. Should the mission succeed and Hess bring it off, he has acted with my consent.

2. If Hess is interned as a spy in England, he will have mentioned his plan to me at one time but I turned him down.

3. Should his mission miscarry completely, Hess was driven by noise regulations.

Stern also notes that Hess had left behind a letter which "its muddled" unfortunately gives evidence of mental derangement.

Hitler's black-covered lined notebook, sealed by Martin Bormann, his political secretary, and bearing a slip of paper marked "Top Secret. Property of the Führer. Always to be kept under lock and key", ends with Hitler's signature on May 16, 1941.

The *Stern* account quotes only very sparingly from this notebook, but it says that Hess had already elaborated a plan to win over to Germany's side before the war broke out.

Stern says that in the summer of 1939 as Hitler was planning the attack on Poland, Hess received reports from party agents in England suggesting some members of the aristocracy were waiting for a signal from

Germany about a possible understanding.

Hess conceived his personal mission, and sent the details to Hitler by courier on June 25, 1939. The following night Hitler wrote in his diary: "Hess sends me a memorandum concerning the problem of England. Would not have believed that Hess could be so sharp-witted. This memorandum is very, very interesting."

On June 27 Hitler said: "Could not help thinking about Hess's memorandum all night. Must absolutely discuss it with him in confidence." On June 28 the subject was still on his mind: "Read Hess's memorandum once more. Simply fantastic, and yet so simple."

Stern says on June 30 Hitler and Bormann went to Munich and arranged a preliminary discussion with Hess. Hitler instructed him not to talk to anyone else of the proposal. On July 6 Hitler again flew to Munich, noting in his diary later: "Hess must work through the ideas he communicated to me in his memorandum and I expect him for a discussion in absolute privacy."

Continued on back page, col 1

Soviet offer ruffles US

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, yesterday cautiously welcomed Mr Yuri Andropov's latest missile proposal but pointed out that there was still "not the basic willingness (by the Soviet Union) to make the kinds of reductions which President Reagan has been talking about."

Mr Weinberger said the Soviet party leader's proposal that warheads on launchers should be the proper unit of account at the Geneva negotiations on intermediate-range missiles represented "a change" by Moscow.

Until now the Soviet Union has insisted on missile-by-missile counting, largely because its SS20 missiles have three warheads while the Pershing two and ground-launched cruise missiles which the United States is planning to deploy in Western Europe at the end of this year have only one each.

However, Mr Weinberger repeated earlier American rejections of Soviet insistence that British and French strategic systems be included in the Geneva negotiations.

Mr Andropov's speech, made on Tuesday night, has caused some consternation in the United States, where it is regarded as a further attempt to turn European public opinion against the deployment of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles.

The Statement is seen to contain deliberate ambiguities. For example, has suggestion that warheads should be included as part of the Nato arsenal is unacceptable to the Americans as it is to the British and the French.

American sources pointed out that Mr Andropov was well aware of the US position on the British and French missiles before he made his speech, which is why they suspect his primary motive for putting forward his new proposal may have been propaganda.

Mr Weinberger's remarks were in line with a statement issued by the State Department shortly after Mr Andropov's speech which said the Soviet leader appeared to have hardened his position by insisting on the inclusion of the British and French systems.

The statement said the US and its Nato allies had frequently emphasized they could not accept Soviet demands for the right to maintain nuclear forces equal to all other states combined. "Unfortunately Mr Andropov made it clear that such a demand remains the cornerstone of the Soviet position."

World reactions, page 6
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£3m offer for Aintree rejected

By Our Sports Staff

The Grand National is still £1m away from salvation. The Aintree appeal failed by £2m to raise the money to buy the racecourse, and the owner, Bill Davies, yesterday rejected an offer of £3m made by the appeal trustees.

A £1m loan from the Levy Board would have made up the shortfall, and been financed from future profits from the race.

Mr Davies said he would accept the £3m offer, if a further £1m was forthcoming within 12 months. The trustees, after lengthy consideration, decided that they would not be able to raise the extra money, and turned down the offer.

Mr Dearing complained, however, about the Government's financial constraints, which require that the Post Office pay the Treasury part of its profits. Last year that figure was £96.2m.

A Jockey Club statement said: "This firm offer of £1m remains on the table until May 16."

Report, page 22

Sotheby's inquiry ordered

By Jeremy Warner

The battle for control of Sotheby's, the London-based fine art auctioneers, was halted yesterday when Lord Cockfield, the Trade Secretary, referred the £60m bid by two New

Provincial press recovery

The provincial newspaper industry is witnessing a renewal of confidence after a period of lost sales and advertising. Mr David Cole, retiring president of The Newspaper Society, said yesterday:

Mr Cole, the chairman of the Western Mail and Echo Ltd, Cardiff, told the society's combined sectional meeting in London: "Just two years ago the future for the regional and local press could not have been described as encouraging."

The industry responded to its problems with hard work and the formation of fresh initiatives.

Ship handyman awarded £4,000

Mr James French, aged 60, of Sheerness, Kent, a ship's handyman, was awarded £4,000 damages in the High Court in London yesterday for injuries caused when he was exposed to chlorine gas while cleaning the galley floor of the passenger ferry Oiau Kent in November 1978.

Mr French had mixed two cleaning agents which should never be combined because he could not read their warning labels, which were in Dutch and German. The award, with costs, was against Oiau Line (UK).

Inquest verdict on teenagers

An inquest jury in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, yesterday found that Gary English, aged 19, of Castle Street, and James Brown, aged 18, of Beechwood Crescent, who were fatally injured in an accident on Easter Sunday two years ago, had died after being knocked down by an Army Land-Rover.

The jury also found that the Land-Rover had reversed over Mr English's body as he lay on the roadway and that the fatal injuries were sustained in the initial impact.

Life support mother dies

Miss Beverley Brooke, aged 19, who gave birth to a son by caesarean section while on a life support system, has died in hospital 24 hours after the birth.

Her son, Michael, who weighs 6lb, is doing well at Leeds General Infirmary. His mother was placed on the respirator after collapsing.

Report for DPP

A report by Mr Charles Horan, Assistant Chief Constable (Crime) of Greater Manchester Police, into the death of Mr James Davey, aged 40, while in custody at Coventry police station in March has been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Pension petition

Mr James Nicholson, who auctioned his father's Battle of Britain Victoria Cross last week for £10,000, plans to present a petition with 20,000 signatures to MPs later this month calling for a review of Second World War widows' pensions.

Oil test agreed

Despite strong opposition, West Sussex county council's planning committee yesterday approved a scheme by Conoco (UK) to drill an exploratory 7,000ft bore hole at Baxter's Copse, at Graftham, West Sussex.

Penlee verdict

Mr Richard Stone, QC, who chaired the public inquiry into the loss of the Penlee lifeboat, and the coasters Union Star, will give his findings at Penzance on May 18, it was announced yesterday.

Lack of money hamstrings justice Act

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government's law and order policies are being jeopardized by the inability of the probation service to bring the new Criminal Justice Act fully into effect as planned on May 24.

One of the main reasons is lack of cash. Another is that the National Association of Probation Officers (Napo) has moved to ban the introduction of the more controversial measures.

Places under the new community service orders for young people aged 16 will in any case have to be rationed, Mr Michael Day, chairman of the Association of Chief Probation Officers, said.

He is Chief Probation Officer for the West Midlands where

Shipbuilding men threaten takeover of state yards

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Leaders of 63,000 shipbuilding workers yesterday threatened a mass occupation of yards unless plans to cut the workforce by at least 9,000 were achieved.

Mr Murray said that the threatened occupations would affect all 22 nationalized shipyards in Britain simultaneously. The length of the sit-in would be determined by the negotiating committee.

No ballot of the membership will be held on whether to take the action. Delegates assured union leaders that the shopfloor would back whatever measures were considered necessary.

"It is not the intention of the shipyard negotiating committee to head for confrontation. We don't seek confrontation, we seek a solution to this problem through cooperation with British Shipbuilders."

Mr Murray said some delegates had been calling for strike action, but it had been ruled out in favour of occupation.

• Hopes were raised yesterday that a deal to be put to a mass meeting of Tilbury dockers today would result in a return to work after a seven-week stoppage – one of the longest in the industry's history.

The compromise package was worked out by an independent three-man inquiry chaired by Sir John Wood and it has been informally accepted by the Port of London Authority and the national officer of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Last night the deal was being discussed with local union representatives and it is thought that it will be recommended today to the 2,300 dockers on strike.

The resolution carried at the delegate conference yesterday at Tynemouth reaffirms the unions' total commitment to secure the industry "in its nationalized form".

The meeting mandates the negotiators to resist cutbacks and to oppose the wage freeze.

Peers seek tighter law on juries

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Lord Harris of Greenwich and Lord Wigoder are to make a renewed attempt to press the Government on legislation to tighten eligibility for jury service and ensure convicted criminals do not serve on juries.

The peers are understood to be meeting Government officials soon to express concern that the practice of "jury napping" is continuing and in the hope of agreeing a piece of legislation likely to get through the Commons.

Despite strict security measures introduced in courts after talks between police, the Home Office, the Lord Chancellor's Department and court administrators, jurors are still being approached. "We are hoping some sort of sensible compromise will emerge", Lord Harris said yesterday.

"We want some sort of measure to get criminals off juries as a matter of urgency and not endless tortured arguments over the form it should take."

Measures introduced last year, in particular at the Central Criminal Court, to keep jurors separate from the public have had some effect. But yesterday Mr Peter McKenzie, the court's administrator, said further measures were being considered. "I cannot say what they are for obvious reasons," he added.

The rationing of places will jeopardize government plans to reduce the use of custody, to which community service is supposed to be an alternative.

Shortage of money will also limit the ability of the probation service to introduce plans to cope with other new measures for juveniles.

Chief probation officers have estimated that £8m is needed if the service is to implement fully the Act's provisions. It is getting slightly more than £1m, Mr Day said.

Probation officers argue that

the Government's parsimony is defeating its law and order strategies. While the shortfall in prison places is expected to rise from 3,850 at the end of 1982-83 to 4,392 in 1984-5, the number of probation officers is expected to increase only from 5,101 to 5,256.

They will be needed just to cope with the expansion of existing work, their chief says.

Further complaints have come from the Police Federation about shortage of cash to administer centrally victims support schemes and, from trade unions, that because of cutbacks many parking fines and car tax laws could not be enforced in London.

Probation officers have al-

ready struck for a day against pay cuts for trainees.

Under the Criminal Justice Act courts will have the power to make specified activity orders, laying down what a juvenile may do during supervision by a probation officer.

According to probation chiefs, there is not enough money to provide all the programmes needed.

There is strong opposition within the service to the use of curfews. Mr Day said: "I do not think curfews will be extensively used."

"They have to be seen as feasible and recommended by a probation officer. The probation service is uneasy about them."

The Prime Minister might take no direct interest in such sporting events, she will be acutely aware of the hazards of doorman canvassing at a time when such sporting events are being covered extensively by television, and the even greater resentment which might build up with political debates squeezing out the media's sports coverage.

Most MPs now believe that the election will be in June. Nothing has been said to make them waver in that conviction.

• Sir Philip Knights, the chief constable of the West Midlands, said yesterday that until there was a fully corporate approach to crime, there would be no real reduction in the annually increasing number of offences (Arthur Osman writes).

He told the county's police committee, in his annual report for 1982, that the 210,688

crimes reported last year was an increase of almost 12 per cent on 1981 figures.

Important changes in local government are likely to be part of the Government's election

platform.

lay visitors will also be given access to any prisoner who agrees to speak to them.

The idea was mooted by members of Greater Manchester Council's police committee to alleviate public disquiet over the treatment of those held in police cells. The pilot scheme, initially planned to last nine months, is being closely monitored by the Home Office and neighbouring police forces.

Mr Tony Whittaker, chairman of the Police Federation in Manchester, said his backing to the scheme. He has often been at odds with the committee in the past. However, he believes the

scheme will help ease the pressure on his men and prevent many allegations of mistreatment.

The volunteer visitors, all members of the police committee, attended a weekend conference to learn about the treatment of those held in police cells. The pilot scheme, initially planned to last nine months, is being closely monitored by the Home Office and neighbouring police forces.

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Seaside resort rift grows as traders seek curbs on handicapped visitors

From Craig Seton, Teignmouth

A deep and bitter rift opened yesterday between the town of Teignmouth, in Devon, and national organizations representing mentally and physically disabled people, over the seaside resort's largest hotel which caters mainly for mentally handicapped and mentally ill holidaymakers.

At the centre of the increasingly acrimonious row was a press conference at the hotel, intended as a plea for understanding on behalf of the holidaymakers, where Mr Brian Rix, the secretary general of Menpac, met with shouts of "rubbish" from some townsfolk and traders as he delivered a speech.

Teignmouth town councillors attended the press conference in it should be boycotted. Outside, some local traders, members of the town's chamber of commerce, vocally insisted that the presence of large numbers of severely mentally handicapped and ill people and others with physical disabilities was driving away other holiday trade.

After the crowded and noisy press conference at the seafront Royal Hotel, Mr Rix, who has a mentally handicapped daughter, and Mr Don Riddell, the town's mayor, agreed separately that it had done nothing to heal the rift.

'Cockroaches in Brooks's club'

By Richard Evans

Live cockroaches and thousands of mouse droppings were discovered during an inspection of kitchens at Brooks's, the London club, a court was told yesterday.

A senior environmental health officer from Westminster City Council also found evidence of fruit fly infestation and saw dirty walls, ovens and kitchen utensils at the 218-year-old club's premises in St James's Street, Piccadilly, Mr Donal Kerrigan said for the prosecution.

At Bow Street magistrates' court Mr Hugh Smith, chairman of the club's management committee, and Mr Gordon Irving, the club secretary, each pleaded guilty to four summonses brought under food and hygiene regulations. Mr Smith also pleaded guilty to two summonses brought under

health and safety at work laws, but denied two others.

They each pleaded not guilty to a further 26 summonses alleging contravention of food and hygiene regulations, five of which were later dismissed by the magistrate.

Mr Kerrigan said the inspection of Brooks's – perhaps one of the more well-known clubs in London – was carried out last July in relation to the renewal of the club's licence. The visit to the premises caused Mr Alexander Parker-Brown, the environmental health official, "considerable concern" and alarm.

Mr Parker-Brown told the court yesterday: "I found several adult cockroaches. I also found evidence of nymphs and egg cases which gave evidence that they were breeding within

the premises."

The kitchen floor was cleaned three or four times a day.

The hearing was adjourned until May 18.

Five paratroops raped girl of 15, court told

A girl cried as she told a jury yesterday that she had been repeatedly raped by a group of paratroopers.

The girl, who was aged 15 at the time, said that as she lay struggling on a bed at Aldershot barracks, Hampshire, her legs were tied apart at the ankles with elasticated cord as she was held down by two men.

"I was screaming and telling them to leave me alone and get off", the girl, who is nearly 17, told the jury at Winchester Crown Court.

She said that one soldier had intercourse with her and was followed by another man and then another. Asked how many men had intercourse with her, she replied: "I don't know", and then added: "Four or five maybe".

The girl also said that she had been hit and urinated over.

The hearing continues today.

Bad parking costs share of damages

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

A man who left his car parked in a dangerous position which contributed to an accident found himself liable for part of £14,000 damages awarded to the injured woman in the High Court yesterday.

Miss Diane Morrison, aged 22, of Corporation Street, Stratford, east London, was awarded the damages for back and hip injuries and a face scar suffered when the car in which she was a passenger was in collision with another car.

The damages were awarded with costs against Mr Albert Edgecombe, of Roman Road, Bow, east London; Mrs Joan Gregory, of Spey Street, Chingford, Essex, who was driving Miss Morrison and Mr Paul Rees, of Globe Road, Tower Hamlets, east London, who had parked his car dangerously.

The accident occurred when the car carrying Miss Morrison drove out of a private car park and into a main road.

New clash over Aids

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Another clash over the possibility of British people contracting Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) through faulty blood products seems likely after Mr Clive Jenkins, the general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, accused the Government of cutting the budget for the Central Blood Laboratory Anthony by 10 per cent and allowing private importers

to bring suspect blood products into the country.

However, the Department of Health and Social Security emphatically denied yesterday that there had been any cut in the authority's budget for 1983-84.

But the department accepted that the authority was concerned about its overall cash allocation and would be having discussions on the issue soon.

The Gloucestershire Trust for Nature Conservation hopes to save it from extinction by trying to get the road moved further away.

Miss Sonia Holland, the warden in charge of the reserve, yesterday: "We are extremely concerned. The plans for the housing estate and road which will run within



Joseph Gamble displaying one of his rare Azil fighting cocks after yesterday's court hearing when he was fined £525 for offences connected with cock fighting in a shed in his garden.

Men fined £3,410 over cock fight

From Our Correspondent

Hitchin

Ten men and a juvenile were fined a total of £3,410 yesterday for being present at a cockfight and causing unnecessary suffering to an animal.

Magistrates at Hitchin, Hertfordshire, had been told that when the police and officers from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals raided a garden shed on April 2 the had found them huddled together watching an illegal cockfight.

The court was told that officers found a pit inside the shed made up of straw bales, hardboard and sheeting erected in a circular fashion. In the ring the officers found a cock bird with blood tripping from its beak. Its right eye was closed and its neck and head were bruised and swollen.

A second bird was also injured and both were on the point of exhaustion. On the floor, which was covered in bird droppings police found a newly broken hen.

All 11 accused pleaded guilty to the charges. The owner of the shed, Joseph Gamble, aged 35, of Temple Close, Charlton, near Hitchin, admitted using a pit for the purpose of cockfighting. The other 10 admitted a separate charge of using the pit for an illegal cockfight.

Mr David Wainwray, for the prosecution, said that the birds found were Azils, an Indian breed known for its viciousness. Their spurs had been cut short and taped up.

Five of the men admitted being members of the Rare Breed Society.

An RSPCA officer said after the hearing that he was investigating other incidents of cockfighting.

Plaintiff guilty were: Stuart Worth, aged 21, of Hayes, Middlesex; Steve Nicholas, aged 20, of Epsom; Nicholas Davey, aged 20, of Epsom; Steven George Kieran Hume, aged 22, of Ashford, Kent; Brian Markham, aged 20, of Erdington, Birmingham; Brian Markham, John Rivers, aged 21, of Birmingham; and his son Christopher, aged 17, of Croydon; and a juvenile aged 16 from Epsom, Surrey. The other eight adults were each fined £300.

The female and Gilbert Tocher were given a conditional discharge for two years.

The hearing continues today.

Police hold sex shop company peer

By Our Crime Reporter

Lord Grey, the Liberal peer and chairman of a sex shop company, was yesterday arrested by officers from Scotland Yard's obscene publications squad. The earl and three other men were held by police after a series of raids in Stratford, east London yesterday. The police searched a warehouse, a shop and offices.

Lord Grey, who is president of the Association of Cost and Executive Accountants, was attacked for his decision to take up the Conegate job by fellow Liberals and by Mrs Mary Whitehouse, president of the National Viewers' and Listener's Association.

Later, Scotland Yard said Lord Grey, described as the chairman of a company called Quiet Lyn, and the three other men were being questioned by detectives at West Ham police station. Two of the men were described as directors of Quiet Lyn and were named as Mr Robert Johnson, aged 27, and Mr Brian Richards, aged 41, both from east London.

The third man arrested was named as Mr Daniel Reed, aged 30, from Ilford, Essex, described as a sales assistant.

Lord Grey, aged 44, became chairman of the Conegate company which controls sex shops and magazine publishing, last February after the job was offered at a salary of between £10,000 and £20,000 by Mr David Sullivan, the company's founder.

Lord Grey, who is president of the Association of Cost and Executive Accountants, was attacked for his decision to take up the Conegate job by fellow Liberals and by Mrs Mary Whitehouse, president of the National Viewers' and Listener's Association.

The sixth earl of a line created in 1806, Lord Grey succeeded to the title in 1963 at the age of 24, when he was training to become a building trade estimator. When he accepted the chairmanship of Conegate it was said he had been offered the job once and rejected it. He was approached again after the job was advertised and accepted on a part-time basis.

Lord Grey, whose family name was given to the "Earl Grey" tea, has been living on a house boat at Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

Lord Grey, whose family name was given to the "Earl Grey" tea, has been living on a house boat at Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

Two men who used rotting bacon in the manufacture of hamburgers and sausages, some of which were supplied to hospitals, were both jailed for nine months at Preston Crown Court yesterday.

Judge Alistair Bell, who fined them £20,000 each, said the fraud "had put the health of the public at risk".

Arthur Kay, aged 40, pet food manufacturer, of Wigton Road, Bolton, and Martin Godfrey, aged 33, of Wilton Parade, Blackpool, were convicted of conspiracy to defraud by using bacon which was not fit for human consumption.

The prosecution had alleged Kay bought the bacon, classified as mediocre, at cut price. But instead of being used for pet food, it was sold to Godfrey's firm, Direct Bacon Supplies of Blackpool.

The hearing will continue today.

Suicide verdict on boy of 16 hanged in jail cell

A boy aged 16 was found hanging from window bars in a cell in the borstal allocation unit of Strangeways Prison, a Manchester inquest was told yesterday.

Steven Bowley shared the cell with two other young prisoners whose shouts and screams alerted prison officers.

Bowley, of Garsbeck Way, Spennymoor, Middlesbrough, died early on March 15. He was hanging from a piece of sheet from a bed in the cell.

Dr Geoffrey Garrett, a Home Office pathologist, said death was due to hanging. The jury returned a verdict that Bowley killed himself.

Earlier that month he had been sentenced at Teesside Crown Court for attempted robbery and theft. Mr John Forster, assistant governor at Strangeways said.

The inquest heard that both other inmates of Bowley's cell had been cleared of any involvement in his death.

Mr George Bowley said his son had become moody and withdrawn.

The world. It is greater than the United States and second only to Japan.

The Home Video Revolution in Western Europe (Economist Intelligence Unit, 27 St James's Place, London, SW1A 1EQ).

● The British Phonographic Industry gave a warning yesterday about a new wave of cassette piracy (The Press Association reports). The sound of these cassettes were often muffled, distorted or in mono.

They advise buyers to look carefully at the cassette label and inlay card. Pirate tapes do not have copyright or trademark details and often give little information.

The sale of pirated video film to Europe by organized crime, which is principally London-based, is increasing although purchasers of pornographic material have been on the decline, according to a report by the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU).

The criminal network, the report concludes, was able to operate because laws were "weak and toothless". However, the new Copyright Amendment Act, which will be law next month, is expected to change the situation. Instead of maximum penalties of two months in jail, the new law will allow sentences of up to two

years to be imposed even for the first offence.

The report says: "The police, alarmed at last by the involvement of organized crime in the video business (including Dutch and United States interests), have agreed to concentrate more fully upon enforcing the law, especially in the key cities of London, Liverpool and Glasgow."

But pornography, as a video product, is now less attractive to purchasers. Although it is difficult to quantify exactly the pornography market because the films are distributed illegally, the report concludes that "porn seems to be running out of steam".

The British video market is therefore the second largest in

Pilots 'put at risk' by laser shows

The Civil Aviation Authority has asked the Health and Safety Executive to introduce new safety guidelines to prevent pilots from being put at risk from coloured laser beams projected into the night sky at laser exhibitions.

Several pilots have complained recently about loss of night vision and mistaking laser beams for navigational beacons. At Doncaster, south Yorkshire, an electrical firm has withdrawn a laser show from local RAF station.

Several weeks ago, a pilot at Leeds complained of losing his night vision for an hour after being caught in the glare of a laser beam soon after take-off. He later told officials he could not read his instrument panel and would have had difficulty coping with an emergency.

Another pilot was dazzled during a laser show during the Blackpool Illuminations last year.

Youth accused of wounding PC

A youth aged 16 appeared before magistrates at Reading, Berkshire, yesterday accused of wounding Police Constable Francis Richley. The youth, from Reading, faces a charge of unlawfully and maliciously wounding PC Richley, aged 21 on May 3 with intent to do grievous bodily harm. He was remanded in custody until today when he will appear before Reading juvenile court.

PC Richley was yesterday said to be in a stable condition at the John Radcliffe Hospital at Oxford.

Hospital pigeon post ends

A pigeon service used since 1978 to carry blood and other specimens between the Devonport and Freedom Fields hospitals in Plymouth is being discontinued as Devonport hospital has been closed.

Mr Harry Walsh, a postal room supervisor at Freedom Fields hospital, set up the pigeon loft to save money on taxis. Now specimens travel between Freedom Fields and a new hospital in a staff bus.

Deer run amuck in dining room

Two deer broke down the door of a house in Drayton High Road, Norwich, yesterday and ran amuck in the dining room, trapping two women in a bedroom.

One deer escaped but the other was tranquilized and released in woodland. They were thought to have escaped from woodland in the grounds of a local psychiatric hospital.

Research grant

A new heart research group is to be set up in Glasgow University's department in the city's Royal Infirmary, with £300,000 from the British Heart Foundation and a charity organization.

Heart man well

Mr Patrick Holden, aged 48, a businessman from Stapleford, Nottinghamshire, who became Britain's hundredth heart transplant recipient last month, was yesterday "progressing very well" at Papworth Hospital, near Cambridge.

The boy's older sister said that the family did not get on with their neighbours, some of whom had threatened that they were going to set fire to the house.

The hearing will continue today.

Former mayor appears on fraud charges

A former lord mayor of Portsmouth went on trial yesterday accused of fraud and deception. Richard Sotnick, aged 48, a solicitor, conspired with Anthony Savage, a property developer, to defraud a Channel Islands company of £5,280. It was alleged at Wilmot, Guernsey Ltd.

Mr Sotnick told the jury that in 1977 Mr Sotnick tried to persuade another company to release its mortgage on this development land by falsely stating that £2,850 of the net proceeds had been apportioned to Dawnpoint Properties.

Mr Savage, aged 50, of Fort George, Guernsey, denies conspiring to obtain almost £58,000 from Shorclands Securities, a Bournemouth finance company, in 1975 by falsely claiming that his company, Belside, had entered into a contract for the sale of the land in Powys.

The trial continues today.

Crime moves in on soaring sales of pirate videos

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The sale of pirated video film to Europe by organized crime, which is principally London-based, is increasing although purchasers of pornographic material have been on the decline, according to a report by

Labour wants councils to control police

POLICE BILL

Confidence in the police would not be restored until democratic control over them was reasserted, Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said, when the report stage of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill was resumed in the Commons.

Mr Hattersley (Birmingham, Sparkbrook, Lab) was speaking to an Opposition new clause to establish new police committees to maintain adequate and efficient police forces, to prepare law enforcement policies for their area and to appoint the chief constable.

He said: "It is not right to both the prevention and the detection of crime was a Labour Party issue. Over the past four years (he went on) the people who have suffered the most from the increase in crime have been what I call our people."

He supported the new clause because the radical reorganization of the police which it proposed would make their task in protecting the families who most needed protection more successful.

The police force, which spent vast amounts of public money and which influenced directly and crucially everybody's lives, should be subject to some control other than their own. At the moment they were, in effect, subject to no control at all.

Defenders of the present system regarded it as a glory of the law that the police were not under any control or influenced by any political process. He believed it to be their weakness.

Had the police been under the control of police authorities of elected men and women in the way that education, housing and public health were, the pressure on the councillors to control the police would have been such that the police would have been required to perform in a way which was nearer to the wishes of the people and more likely to protect their interests.

I want to see electors and constituents (he said) turning up at council surgeries on Friday evenings or Saturday mornings and saying, for example: "Unless you get more policemen back on the beat, or unless we see policemen on the street corner instead of occasionally and suddenly arriving in a fast motor car, do not expect to vote for you next time."

There ought to be a specific Act of Parliament which described and delimited the duties of chief constables and which of the policy decisions should be left to them and which should be given to the properly and democratically elected representatives of the people.

Police authorities or committees should be given specific powers over the general policy of the police in their areas, they should be given their powers in the knowledge that as they stood today, they had no authority over individual chief police officers unless they were responsible for a direct and gross breach of their obligations.

There needed to be a general day-to-day right to influence and determine policy and this did not exist at the moment. The police in Britain (he said) are the only institution where we have gone back on democracy over the past 50 years. I do not believe that confidence in the police will be restored until their democratic control is reasserted.

After the Brixton riots the Home Secretary (Mr William Whitelaw) gave the opinion of equipping themselves with CS gas, rounds, armoured personnel carriers and water cannons. Some police chiefs had chosen not to do so on the grounds that it would change the nature of their forces. So how could it be justified that one man, the chief officer, should decide such important matters?

Some people had said police committees, with their political prejudices, would interfere in that most sensitive of police decisions, the decision to prosecute. He had never believed allegations of bias were justified, but if there was this fear the proposal submitted by Labour, creating an independent prosecution service to take prosecutions out of the hands of the

police, and therefore out of the hands of the police committees, should put that fear aside.

Objection to creation of the police authorities was concentrated sometimes on the creation of such an authority for London where there was now a police authority which theoretically had power to exercise some control. That authority was the Home Secretary. The Tories were determined that this should continue.

But nobody could believe that Home Secretaries could conceivably be such an authority. Mr Whitelaw had consistently refused to answer questions on the organization and performance of the Metropolitan Police and had insisted that issue after issue was a matter for the Commissioner rather than himself.

After the Buckingham Palace intrusion he (Mr Hattersley) had been telephoned by a newspaper inviting him to demand Mr Whitelaw's resignation. He had replied that such a demand would be absurd because the idea that the Home Secretary was responsible for the break in was preposterous.

Tories had made speeches about the undesirability of the London police falling into the hands of the Greater London Council. He had to concede that if the democratic system now proposed was introduced in other parts of the country, control of the police would fall into the hands of county authorities about which he had feelings similar to those Mr Whitelaw had about the GLC. But it was called democracy.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Teesside, Thornaby, SDP) said that few parts of the country outside London and Scotland had been given autonomy. In these areas there was a harmonious relationship between the police and the community and little cause for complaint. What happened in the Metropolitan force influenced attitudes towards police elsewhere.

He wanted to see police authorities reformed to make them more representative. Often their make up was not representative of the community so that some areas had authorities being run by the Home Office.

Under the first-past-the-post voting system it could be a small minority of the electorate who actually put local authority control in the hands of the people who were there. Therefore a police authority could potentially be in the hands of people who only represented 10 to 20 per cent of the community.

It was not good enough for the other 80 per cent to have actions and policies foisted upon them.

The activities of the left-wing activists in the police committees on local councils in the London area had done a tremendous amount of damage to the police force for the greater accountability of the police.

Those who wanted to see more accountability and the reform of police authorities were having their efforts pushed back by the activities of people like that.

There should be a select committee drawn from London MPs to provide a useful forum for debating the strategy of the police and in cross examining the Home Secretary and the Commissioner on the activities of the Metropolitan Police.

Once a system of proportional representation had been established at local level there should be a Metropolitan Police authority, not the GLC, but drawn from local authority representatives in London.

It was essential that the police were seen to administer justice impartially and his party did not believe the Labour proposal would continue the impartiality which now existed in the vast majority of police forces in the country. Therefore they would not support the proposal.

Mr John Tilley (Lambeth, Central, Lab) said in recent years there had been a decline in public confidence in the police in London. There was taxation without representation.

Last year Londoners paid over £300 for the police and yet had no say at all through the local authority system about how that police force was controlled. There was a very high level of crime and a very low clear-up rate.

The police should be viewed as a public service like any other and, as such, should be accountable to the community of which it was a part and which it served.

It was a constitutional fiction to say that the Home Secretary was the police authority for London. He was

acceptable to the community or, as

Mr Tilley said:

Two Vietnamese "boat people" have been given a warm welcome in the heart of Northern Ireland's "bandit country", an area so dangerous that British Soldiers are taken in and out of their barracks by helicopter.

Their Chinese restaurant in the infamous village of Crossmaglen is attracting customers from 15 miles away in the Republic of Ireland. But the security forces will not be enjoying Chicken Chow Mein on the premises.

Whether it has been spelt out to them not to serve the soldiers is not clear, but the advice "When in Cross, do as the Crossmen do" appears to have been taken to heart.

The border and Crossmaglen's reputation mean little to the newest entrepreneurs in a village which has seen only two businesses begin in the last 10 years. Oblivious to the area's history and the Provisional IRA graffiti daubed on walls, which includes the words: "You are now entering Free South Armagh - Brit's graveyard", Peter Phong and John Lee decided on Crossmaglen for sound commercial reasons and have been overwhelmed by their reception.

Business has been booming since they opened in March with the name Love-Viet-Hoa, which translates to Irish-Vietnam-China.

Only a supplier from Belfast expressed serious reservations at their choice of area. "He said he would not send lorries to Crossmaglen at night. I think he was afraid", Mr Phong said.

Mr Phong, aged 21, and Mr Lee, aged 25, left Saigon in 1979 with about 300 other refugees. Each paid for his escape with seven bars of

gold weighing 24 ounces. Eventually picked up by a British vessel, they reached Craigavon in Northern Ireland via Taiwan and London. They still remember with gratitude the captain of the ship which picked them up from the sea.

While working in a restaurant in the republic, the men decided to start their own business and chose Crossmaglen. "We liked it as a place and, as there was no Chinese restaurant or take away in it, thought it was a good place to start", Mr Phong said.

With help from a local guesthouse owner they found premises above a public house which were decorated free by the owner. They bought £12,000 of kitchen equipment and opened in March, with local traders supplying them with meat and vegetables.

"People did not believe us when we told them where we were opening but there has been no trouble at all. We had heard the soldiers were here and knew of its reputation, but it was so much worse in Vietnam that this atmosphere is neither surprising nor strange to see", Mr Phong said.

"We have been treated wonderfully by the local people."

They are blase about the Army helicopters that fly in and out of barracks in the village, saying that there were more flying around Saigon when the Americans were involved in South East Asia.

Two weeks ago, they were in the restaurant when a bomb exploded a few hundred yards along the road. Mr Phong remarked: "I heard the bang while I was watching television and thought the chief in the kitchen was banging something."

*

Mr Alan Borrow, aged 43, a dustman from Lingdale, Cleveland, yesterday completed a 7,400-mile, 14-month walk around Britain's coasts to raise funds for his village band, but discovered he had raised only £147.

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The Thatcher interview: the Prime Minister talks to Julian Haviland, our Political Editor

I take no responsibility for those who strike themselves out of jobs



On the fourth anniversary of the Conservatives' general election victory, Julian Haviland, our political editor, interviews the Prime Minister about her plans for the next Parliament, her attitude to rates reform, trade unions, privatization and foreign affairs.

What can you offer the electorate for another term, Prime Minister? You offered four years ago to "rebuild the economy", and there's not much sign of that, is there?

I think you underestimate what we offered. We offered a complete change in direction - from one in which the state became totally dominant in people's lives and penetrated almost every aspect, to a life where the state did do certain things, but without displacing personal responsibility.

I think we have altered the balance between the person and the state in a favourable way and in a way which is much more in keeping with the character of the people of Britain. So that really was a total change of philosophy, away from the all-embracing dominance of socialism to one in which the state has the framework of law, and defence and the rule of law, and the safety net in the social services, but where it still leaves people tremendous scope for their own enterprise, their own self-reliance, their own responsibility. Would you not expect to be judged through primarily on your economic management, and would you expect the electorate to think that the price, in bankruptcies, closures, unemployment, was worth paying? Are you vulnerable on economics?

No, I do not think I am. The recession has been deep and

wide. What we had to do was seen to be sound in financial terms, and sound in industrial terms... constraining expenditure, trying to get honest money, that is getting inflation down and not borrowing too much.

But you are being attacked for, and you may in the end be judged by, the level of unemployment and your attitude towards it. Did you ever imagine it would be as high as it is now?

No I did not. I don't think any of us knew how deep this world recession was going to be.

One absolutely hates unemployment, but you don't create jobs just by talking.

But Mr Michael Foot has attacked you for your "willing acceptance" of mass unemployment. Is that major?

Oh, totally unjust. Mr Foot and the Government of which he was a member, regarded unemployment - I think it was

about 660,000 - as high according to their philosophy, but they were not able to prevent it from rising by one million. That didn't mean to say that they accepted unemployment or that they wanted it. But is there not a difference? You don't accept responsibility on the Government's part for unemployment, do you?

I cannot accept responsibility for those who strike themselves out of jobs, who insist on having overmanning or restrictive practices, who refuse to accept new technology, or who have not got good management, or who don't design products which other people want to have.

What I do accept responsibility for is creating the right financial framework and the right legal framework. I believe we've done that.

One of your Treasury ministers, Mr Nicholas Ridley, once

said that "the high level of unemployment is evidence of the progress we are making", and what your opponents say, and what Sir Ian Gilmour has said, is that your Government is the first to have repudiated the notion that the Government is responsible for maintaining a high and stable level of employment", to quote the 1944 White Paper. Is that true?

I know that White Paper very well indeed. So much of it is thoroughly true and sound still. Let me read you the last sentence of that foreword: "The success of the policy outlined in this paper will ultimately depend on the understanding and support of the community as a whole, and especially on the efforts of employers and workers in industry, for - this is the important part - without a rising standard of industrial efficiency we cannot achieve a high level of employment combined with a rising standard of living."

There's far more in this white paper that's on the side of my philosophy and my economic practice than anyone else's.

Are you going to the Wiesbaden economic summit whether or not there's a general election on?

I expect to go to Wiesbaden.

Do you expect agreement there on some joint programme to get the world out of recession?

If you mean that there's going to be some new formula, no.



Mrs Thatcher: "I think we have altered the balance between the person and the state in a very favourable way." (Photograph: John Manning.)

Action on EEC budget

Do you expect to go to the Stuttgart summit in early June?

I expect to carry on and go to the Stuttgart summit.

Do you think the electorate will be impressed by the spectacle of yet another row over the Common Market budget?

Impressed, not and I won't be impressed by it. I would be a little bit depressed by it, because I've had to fight that one before. But everyone there knows that, if they were in the position that Britain is, of being one of the two people who finance the Community - Germany being the other one - that they would fight in the same way as I shall. But the objective was a permanent settlement, and you're nowhere near that, are you?

The objective was really to get a different method of financing the community because looking ahead we foresaw that the present method would not work. But I think sometimes it's a weakness of democratic countries; you can point out to them all, including ourselves, things that will happen in the future if you don't take certain evasive action now, and you'll never believe it.

And so it is I think with the community. So long as there was money in the coffers, they never thought we'd come to a crunch when agricultural expenditure would get so great and there wasn't quite enough money to cover it.

Changing union law step by step

I wonder if your new trade union laws will prohibit strikes in public services among water and power workers? nurses? fire service?

Strikes were never prohibited in those services. There was an arrangement with certain public utilities, water and electricity, under which you could not break your contract of employment.

Of course that did not stop working to rule, which can be acutely embarrassing, nor did it stop people coming to the end of the contract of employment and then going on strike before negotiating a new one. So it was not as hard and fast as many people thought.

Are you set on compulsory ballots for trade union elections?

I think it's likely that that will find a place in the manifesto if it is not dealt with by a Bill before the House.

If you try to pass more Bills dealing with trade unions, when the unions are weakened by high unemployment, won't it

Falklands offer stands

you know they washed their hands of Deseretans.

They said the terms and conditions under which he wanted to make the visit would compromise their neutrality. Our offer of a visit of the close relatives of the Argentine dead to visit the Falklands under the auspices of the International Red Cross, and supervised by them, still stands.

Hope for rating reforms

Have you abandoned the idea of abolishing domestic rating?

The straight abolition would be very very difficult indeed, because the amount of money raised by rates has increased enormously.

You are talking about reforming rates now. Will you have positive proposals for reform in the manifesto?

I hope so, I expect so.

Will reform mean that householders will pay less?

I think you must wait and see.

One proposal in 1974 was to take teachers' salaries off the rates. Will you do that?

The first thing you always have to look at in politics is "I know what I want to get away from, what I am going to put in its place?" It's no good just ditching something before you have decided precisely what you replace it with, or how you adjust the two things.

Are you tempted to abolish metropolitan county councils?

I'm tempted to do many things, but I have to consider things with my colleagues and consider what is possible.

Balance in the Cabinet

To put through some of your plans, are you going to need to choose a different sort of Cabinet, free from doubters?

No no, I am very happy with my present Cabinet. We work extremely well together.

You would not have a new Cabinet, as your opponents say, which would be markedly more right wing? You would try to keep balance of the left, right and centre of the party as now?

You always try to keep a balance. You have to take the whole party with you, but your greatest weapon is persuasion

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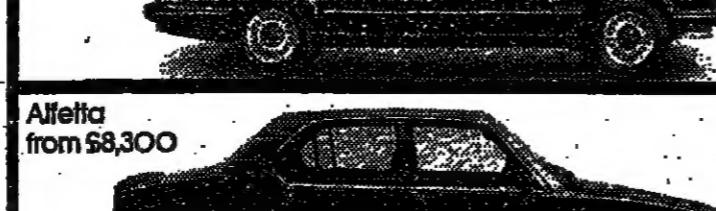
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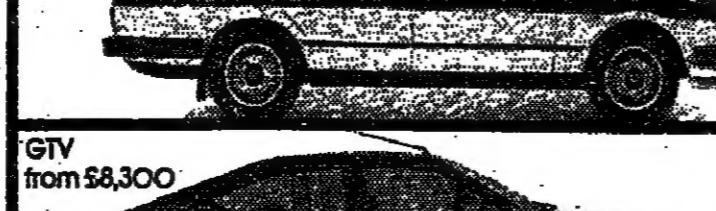
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Andropov's new offer on warheads provokes a qualified welcome from Bonn, London and Nato but big obstacles remain

Kohl waiting for more decisive move but proposes fresh dialogue

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Dr Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, told the West German Parliament yesterday that he would go to Moscow on July 4 to meet Mr Yuri Andropov, and tell him Bonn was ready to continue a dialogue and, with good will, offer the Russians political, economic and scientific cooperation.

The Chancellor also called on the Russians to take a "decisive step" towards disarmament, to demonstrate their will to reach agreement in Geneva and to realize that such a solution also lay in their own interests. He said there was still time for an agreement this year.

Dr Kohl, departing from his prepared text, welcomed Mr Andropov's latest arms offer put forward at a dinner on Tuesday for Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, but suggested it was not the Russians' last word on the American proposals for an interim solution. If, however, Moscow was not ready to give Europe security through disarmament, Bonn would be forced to go ahead with the deployment of new missiles.

Outlining his Government's policies for the next four years, Dr Kohl said a main foreign policy aim was the reduction of East-West tension. Without specifically mentioning detente, he said West Germany was interested in good relations with both East and West, and understood the security needs of all countries, including the Soviet Union.

"Nothing, however, justifies the overarmament of the Soviet Union, which threatens the security of its neighbours and serves the purpose of political blackmail." Furthermore, nothing could justify Moscow's "expansionist policies which led to the invasion of Afghanistan.

A decisive meeting for Shultz

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem

After a day in which nine Israeli soldiers were wounded in occupied Lebanon, Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, last night began a meeting with Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, expected to be decisive in determining whether he will be able to achieve his optimist goal of securing an agreement by Sunday.

The meeting, which was also attended by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Mischa Arens, the Defence Minister, was hastily arranged at the last minute to replace a scheduled and low key session between Mr Shultz, who returned in the afternoon from Beirut and Mr Shamir.

It is understood that Mr Shultz was seeking Israel's response to the latest proposals worked out during two days of talks in Beirut during which Mr Elié Salé, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, poured cold water on American optimism by suggesting that it would be "a miracle" if an agreement

tan and the limiting of the Polish people's freedom, he said.

Dr Kohl emphasized the importance of Nato maintaining peace and freedom. The bedrock of the alliance remained the "deep and firmly rooted friendship" with the United States.

He dealt at length with Bonn's relations with East Germany, which have become the focus of a bitter dispute within the coalition between Herr Franz Josef Strauss and his right-wing Christian Social Union and the Free Democrats.

The Chancellor appeared to make few, if any, noticeable concessions to the CSU calls for a tougher line towards East Berlin, and he pointedly avoided mentioning Herr Honecker's recent cancellation of his scheduled visit here this year.

However, he said that in striving for practical steps forward, "conversations at all levels" could be useful.

The Chancellor did not hesitate to condemn the division of Germany, and affirmed the unity of the nation and principle of a single German citizenship. He spoke of the "dangerous border" that cut across Germany and added: "Walls, barbed wire, orders to shoot and provocations are still an attack on humanity. Wherever they exist, there is no normality."

Bonn's policy would continue to be based on the Eastern treaties, including the West German appendix on German unity and the rulings of the Constitutional Court. But in day-to-day dealings the steps taken by one side had to be balanced by corresponding steps by the other.

Those who wanted good neighbourly relations had to

fulfil the treaties in letter and spirit, and Bonn was therefore still looking for an East German reduction in the minimum sum.

Western visitors were obliged to exchange. Dr Kohl also called Berlin a "touchstone of East-West relations."

At home, the Chancellor, whose two-hour speech was punctuated by frequent applause, said his top priority was the fight against unemployment. According to figures released yesterday, the number of jobless had gone down slightly, although the long-term outlook remained bleak. Dr Kohl said there was no quick solution, but insisted that since his party came to power last October the general downward economic trend had been reversed.

In social security he proposed a study of possible cuts and savings to avoid a further postponement of pension increases, and announced a thorough overhaul of the contribution scheme to keep the system solvent.

In economic policy he announced tax changes to encourage investment, a hard, cold look at Government subsidies and Government efforts to guarantee all young people proper industrial training. The Chancellor insisted on equal pay for men and women, and said his Government would try to improve the work opportunities for women.

Dr Kohl announced tougher measures to project the environment, expressed his alarm at the destruction of West Germany's forests by acid rain and called for better measures, jointly agreed with East Germany, to clean up the air and water.

He called for tolerance and understanding for the 4.6

million foreigners working in West Germany, but said his Government would stop any further influx and would pay for encouraging them to return to their countries of origin. Misuse of the right of asylum would also be stopped.

Finally, the Chancellor spoke of trying to create a more human society, of his aim to encourage more people to have children, and of his belief in the need for a general "moral renewal". He affirmed that his coalition believed in centrist policies and in old fashioned values and duties.

His declaration will be debated by the Bundestag over the next three days, with Herr Hans-Joachim Vogel, representing the Social Democratic opposition.

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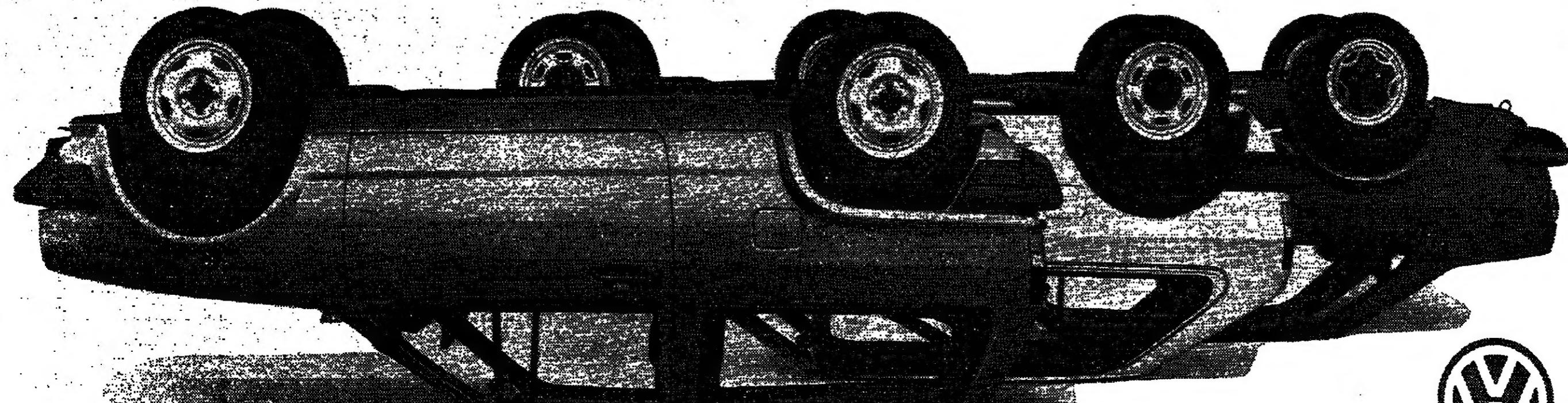
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Polo, or Coupé, or Classic.



Iran bans communist party after spying confession by leader

Iran's prosecutor general yesterday announced the dissolution of the Tudeh (Communist) Party and ordered all members and supporters to report to prosecutors' offices, the national news agency IRNA reported.

The agency, monitored by Reuters in London, said the prosecutor, Mr Hussein Musavi Tabrizi, had announced the dissolution of the "pro-Soviet and treacherous Tudeh".

The announcement ordered all party members and supporters in Tehran to report to the prosecutor's office within a week from next Saturday, and those in provincial cities within a week from May 15.

Anyone failing to report within the set period would be "considered a counter-revolutionary and a plottor against the Islamic Republic of Iran and accordingly prosecuted," the agency quoted the announcement as saying.

Nakasone's answer to depression

Singapore (Reuter) Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, criticized protectionist trends in trade and called for frank dialogue among world leaders to prevent severe economic depression.

Speaking at a state banquet on the first day of a three-day visit here, Mr Nakasone said the world economy had yet to come out of a "long tunnel of recession". He said that if the trend continued, the world would be caught in events similar to the great depression in the 1930s.

The Tudeh Party had been banned under Iran's ousted Monarchy, but came into the open after the 1979 revolution. The announcement came after a televised confession on Saturday by Mr Nourreddin Kianouri, the Tudeh secretary-general, in which he said he spied for the Soviet Union.

A newspaper translation of the confession quoted him as saying: "Our violations consisted of the delivery of top secret military and political documents to our bosses at the Russian Embassy".

About 70 members of the party, including Mr Kianouri and other high-ranking officials, were arrested in February and a second group of party members were picked up on April 27.

On Monday, the commander of Iran's Revolutionary Guards said all members of the Tudeh Party should identify themselves immediately and report to the guards.

Accord on Sino-French reactor

From David Bonavia, Peking

France and China have reached agreement in principle on the sale of a French nuclear reactor to China to be combined with British generating equipment in a new power plant near Hong Kong, informed sources said here last night.

The agreement was reached during talks between Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, and President Mitterrand now visiting China.

The reactor, of the pressurized water type, has long been considered the most suitable for combination with the British GEC plant to supply electricity to a large area of southern China and Hong Kong. Britain and China have

already reached broad agreement on the British end of the deal, and all that remains is to work out the exact financial terms which will make it possible to finance it with future sales of power to the British colony. This is viewed as a stabilizing factor in the present negotiations between China and Britain over the future of Hong Kong.

President Mitterrand and Mr Zhao spent an hour and a half discussing Cambodia, informed sources said. It was Mr Zhao who insisted on this lengthy discussion of the problem, which is the area of most disagreement between the Chinese and French governments.

Mr Zhao said earlier that the norms of international relations were to be "trampled under foot" in Afghanistan and Cambodia in a clear criticism of the Soviet Union and Vietnam.

Mitterrand has also reiterated his Government's demand that foreign troops should leave Cambodia. But Peking is critical of Paris for giving aid to Vietnam.

Mr Hu Yaobang yesterday left Peking for Romania, the first of a series of official Chinese visits to East Europe. Reuter reports.

He will spend several days in Bucharest before going on to Yugoslavia.

Grenade attack kills 15 near Phnom Penh

Phnom Penh (Reuter) Fifteen people were killed and more than 30 seriously injured during a recent grenade attack by guerrillas on a crowded market on the outskirts of the Kampuchean capital, foreign medical workers said yesterday.

The attack at Tagmac, a suburb about six miles from the centre of Phnom Penh, was closest to the capital since Kampuchea's former rulers, the Peking-backed Khmer Rouge, were ousted from power in January, 1979, by Vietnam's invasion.

Foreign doctors mainly from Eastern Europe are in Cambodia blamed the Khmer Rouge, now fighting a guerrilla war from

bases on Kampuchea's western border with Thailand.

Some diplomats suggested that the guerrillas might have decided to use terror tactics to unsettle the Vietnamese.

Until now the Khmer Rouge has concentrated on harassing Vietnam's estimated 180,000-man force in Kampuchea, either by blowing up their communication lines or attacking military outposts.

The grenade attack coincided with stepped-up assaults by the Vietnamese Army against the guerrilla bases on the Thai border, which have pushed more than 50,000 Kampuchean civilians into Thailand.

Brakes on merchants of Venice

From Peter Nichols

Rome

Venice, we know, still has its merchants, and many unwary tourists continue to fall foul of them. But they will run less risk of losing a pound of flesh each visit if the mayor persuades the city of cities to impose a toll of £10,000 lire (£5) on every visitor who passes the bridge across the laguna.

Signor Mario Rigo, the Socialist mayor, feels that something must be done to curb the waves of tourists who sweep into the city during the summer, causing damage and confusion.

His idea is that visitors should leave their cars on the mainland and pay the toll which will cover visits to museums and free transport on the canals. The proceeds will finance the necessary services the tourists require.

The Venice municipality itself, he says, gains nothing from tourism. Like other cities it receives its share of taxation from the state based on the number of its inhabitants, which at the moment is 100,000.

So it seems logical to him that the extra costs should be borne by the tourists at the same time, of course, he believes the tourists should not have to pay through the nose for every attraction they visit.

At one car park, for instance,

motorists must pay the equivalent of £7 for two hours' parking.

The mayor also wants to forbid any form of motor-driven craft on the Grand Canal.

Venetians are not so sure about the mayor's plan. As one commented: "It is a fine idea in many ways but it will lead to the tragic confirmation of Venice as one huge *zombie* and no longer a city."

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Several hundred Afghan men crowded on to the high places in the camp to watch, but men in the party were kept strictly away when the Princess entered a tent in which an anti-tuberculosis clinic had been set up. They were also banished, almost to the horizon, when the Princess called at the one-roomed home of Mr Habib Rehman, one of the *chowkidars*, or watchmen, at the clinics. There, the Princess, accompanied by her lady-in-waiting, a woman first secretary from the British Embassy, a lone woman journalist and a female Pakistani security officer, met the women of Mr Rehman's family.

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US sends Soviet-made weapons to rebels

Washington (NYT) — The United States has increased the quantity and quality of covert military support for Afghan insurgents fighting Soviet forces and the Soviet-backed Government in Kabul, according to US Administration officials.

They said that President Reagan made the decision last autumn to raise the price the Soviet Union has to pay for its more than three-year-old effort to assert control over Afghanistan.

The officials denied that there was any connexion between this and what they said were recent increases in Soviet and Cuban aid for Nicaraguan and for Salvadoran guerrillas.

They also denied that their disclosure of activities that the

Refugees appeal to Princess for arms

From Michael Hanley

Peshawar

After recitation, or more nearly incantation, from the Koran, Habib Ghulam Dastagri, a vehement, grey-bearded Afghan from Logar province, told Princess Anne yesterday: "Give us arms".

In a formal address, pausing while the North-West Frontier Province's Commissioner for Refugees translated, Mr Dastagri, a headman and representative of one of the seven political groupings within the refugee camp visited by the Princess, said: "We had no choice but to leave our land. We are glad we emigrated to Pakistan, because we have something in common with the people here, but this is not only a problem of Pakistan. It is a problem that must be faced by all the peace-loving countries of the world."

"We do not want your help to get our country back. But we do want arms." The princess, replying to a group of Mr Dastagri's colleagues at Badabir refugee camp (which last came to public notice when it was the US Air Force base from which U2 pilot Gary Powers set off on his ill-fated spy mission over Russia) said: "Many people from all over the world pray for you and your safe return home."

She avoided the question of arms supply and contented herself with offering the continued services of the Save the Children Fund in the camps. "We are pleased to help in any way we can. We would like to go on helping you with your problems."

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Television

But who was left happy?

Manon Lescaut
Covent Garden

Gloria Vanderbilt's plight was that she was born into an inheritance of several million dollars and a family of vultures. Daddy died insolvent when she was a baby and Mummy's merry-widow life had to be financed by the maintenance allowance she got for little Gloria, which came from grandfather Vanderbilt's \$5m trust fund. Mummy liked money much more than motherhood and left little Gloria all over the place but, mistakenly, always in the company of a Catholic nurse with a talent for morbid indoctrination.

This was the background of Little Gloria... Happy at Last, scripted by William Hanley from the book by Barbara Goldsmith which concluded its two-night run on Channel 4 last night and could only have fortified those who believe that money is not everything.

It had all the ingredients of these television best-sellers - sex, mummery, malreatment, a little God and lots of Twenties and Thirties costumes and vintage cars. It will not be television's fault if we are not all dressing like great-grandmother or great-grandfather before the end of the decade.

There was also the great acting totem, in this case Bette Davis. She did not have much to do but look grand and flash those magnificent orbs, but she did this well without much influencing the action, and expired early in Part 2. Christopher Plummer, as little Gloria's father, did not make the end of Part 1, by which time everyone was at each other's wallet and fighting over who should look after little Gloria and hers.

The court case dominated Part 2 when, as the sports commentators say, both sides had everything to play for. Maybe one of the reasons America did not have a revolution during the depression was that most people were outside this courthouse awaiting the latest basket of dirty linen or hanging around for the next edition to read about it.

Inside, a judge, later found to be an alcoholic in attendance at a psychiatric clinic, presided over the internecine warfare which left no vice unurned and must have set quite a few lawyers on the way to being mini-Vanderbilts themselves. Gloria's Mummy, decorously played by Lucy Gutteridge, lost.

Apart from her two sisters who also married and remarried well, she had little going for her. The anis, included her husband's sister, to whom Angela Lansbury gave much substance but whose antipathy remained unexplained, and her own mother, after vengeance because her daughter did not want her around all the time.

The latter part allowed for much acting and overacting and our own Glynis Johns availed herself of the opportunities. Probably it could all have been done in an hour and a half but works of this sort have to use the expense of the wardrobes and the vintage impedimenta.

What baffled me most was the title. There was no hint in the epilogue, which retailed the subsequent fate of the participants, that Little Gloria, or anyone else, had any kind of happiness. Still, as these things go, it went well. Down go the Vanderbilts and, as Tom Lehrer used to ask, "Who's next? Who's next?"

Dennis Hackett



"outrageously funny" CITY LIGHTS
"recipe for laughs" MARY MORRIS

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Opera

Explosion down in the pit

heat of the wilderness: a sour glissando, a sudden dry scuttle of *sul ponticello* on the violins.

Of course, one does not go to the opera house in order to hear an orchestral concert, though in this case one well might. Indeed, and most surprisingly, Mr Sinopoli makes a strong case for regarding *Manon Lescaut* as a key work in the history of music.

Mr Sinopoli well shows why he has so quickly become one of the opera world's hottest properties. He actually is hot; he sets scores ablaze. And here he does so right from the start, the first act beginning with a clear pistol shot of orchestral sound and going on from there at racing speed. One fears so rash a tempo cannot be maintained, but it is; the orchestra and the chorus have been disciplined and enraged enough to make it work. The effect is electrifying, and, when the music turns amorous, the continuing rapidity has it bubbling over in nervous exuberance.

I could fill the page describing other moments, but a few examples must do. There is the big entracte before Act III, which by this stage one can predict will be marvellous, but not how marvellous. Mr Sinopoli builds powerfully towards its main climax by pouncing on every note as a separate entry: the time tears up, quite freed from the dreary repetitive patterns of mere metre, made into something whole, strong and itself alone. Or at the start of the last act there are some extraordinary string effects to accentuate the scouring

Dame Kiri also rises ably to Mr Sinopoli's challenge. Where at the beginning of the second act he offers the

aural paradigm of a chocolate-box top, the eighteenth century remembered in smooth and silvery soft focus, she brings a similar stillness and loveliness to her singing. The aria she addresses to her brother is done exquisitely in this manner, with the lightest of phrasing and sustained notes rising perfectly out of silence.

But this is only one side of Manon. Dame Kiri is less successful as yet in the first act, for though she has an attractive breathiness to suggest the ingenue, her vocal demeanour is already too ladylike. In the third act this superior bearing is no disadvantage, since it adds to the pathos of Manon's transportation, and in the last act Dame Kiri bravely lets it go, to keep only her purely vocal control.

That, however, is sufficient to give her the range, from a high fortissimo that leaps through the orchestra, without appearing unsuitably big, down to the tight thin line of a musical whisper in which she delivers her dying words. The role is a notable safe.

Thomas Allen's Lescaut, on the other hand, is disappointing: there are some fine phrases, but he seems temperamentally unfitted to portraying so weak a man. The Geronte is not good; the lesser characters are sufficient. And the borrowed production from Hamburg, though it bears the name of Götz Friedrich, is perfectly safe. It is the music that bites.

Paul Griffiths

● This production of *Manon Lescaut* can be seen on BBC Television on May 28, with simultaneous transmission on Radio 3.



Pathos and anxiety: Kiri Te Kanawa, Plácido Domingo

Theatre in New York

Sour parody on the fragility of power



Jeffrey De Munn in the frightening conviction of *K2*

What happens to America's most promising authors of serious drama after their comet-like ascents? With the exception of Eugene O'Neill, playwrights like Clifford Odets, Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller and Edward Albee - who produced fine and, in a few instances, great plays before the age of fifty - have subsequently suffered partial to total burnout. Thus a special sense of poignancy, generated by the recent death of Tennessee Williams and attendant reflections on the fragility of artistic powers, surrounded the opening of Edward Albee's new drama, *The Man Who Had Three Arms* (Lyceum Theatre). Sadly, the play is not only another instance of the syndrome, but a sour parody of it.

In a plush lecture-hall setting, with a host and hostess who turn into other characters, a guest speaker called Himself harangues the audience. On his way to achieving upper-middle-class success, Himself suddenly grew a third arm and was feted as the eighth wonder of the world. After gorging himself on celebrity, he lost everything when the arm disappeared, and is now reduced to embittered, self-pitying confessions.

Mr Albee's offering suggests various parodies - of his own career, of *The Elephant Man*, of Christ's suffering (alluded to several times), even of man giving birth. None, however, is much worth dissecting in spite of such trenchant observations as Himself's "The hog I had been living high off of was myself", and such examples of Albee humour as "I didn't hate my parents; that, I think, is a city habit". The glints of intellect and wit only serve to stress their overall absence.

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down an avalanche. Unfortunately the dialogue accompanying the action ranges from pretentious to pedestrian to sophomorely vulgar. The best sounds are not the words, delivered with conviction and intensity by the actors, but Herman Chedad's audio composition eerily evocative of deadly winds and earthquakes.

There are no neededs in describing Marsha Norman's new play, *night, Mother* (Golden Theatre). In Heidi Landesman's set of a middle-class home drearily decorated in beige, pale yellow and green, life is not merely faded, it is about to stop. Jessie

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SPECTRUM

A Yank at Oxford Circus

MODERN TIMES

A sideways look at the British way of life

Last Sunday, Bob Fromer took one look at the soggy baseball pitch in Regent's Park and turned sadly away. A game of softball (same as baseball) with a softer ball pitched under-arm was out of the question. He and his fellow-players had been looking forward to playing and clobbering the Hyde Park softball team, an older and more established group to which they usually lose.

Bob Fromer is an American freelance audio-visual producer who now lives in Kington, Herefordshire. From April to August, when half of London is pouring into the Welsh Borders at the weekends, Bob is often driving about 150 miles in the opposite direction to play softball with his fellow-Americans in Regent's Park. He first played there in 1972, and by the late 1970s as many as 50 people would turn up to play on Sundays, on the three pitches appropriately situated behind the residence of the American Ambassador.

Numbers have since fallen, but the players still congregate after an afternoon's softball in Maxwell's Cafe in Hampstead. Here they serve a classic line in hamburgers, which can be washed down with every major brand of American beer. It is an architecturally haphazard place, because every time the management gets enough cash it bursts through another adjoining wall, and installs a few more tables. This gives the restaurant an atmosphere of easy-going, slap-happy success that appeals to its mainly American clientele. And, in a notice over the till, the staff are reminded that "a soda customer today may be a steak customer tomorrow."

The number of Americans in London has been reduced by the economic recession, but there are still a lot of them here. There's the businessman, built like a chest of drawers with blow-dried hair, snappy suit and an enormous college ring; the professional woman, slim and elegant, who runs in the morning and keeps her wheat-germ in her purse, the way Jane Fonda says we should; then there's the student, in jeans and running shoes with his teeth still behind scaffolding, because his parents know how important it is to have a good set of choppers and a sincere smile in professional life.

Most of them are birds of passage, here for only a year or so before returning to what they always call The States; but this may be because they have got themselves into a meaningful relationship, or perhaps an optimum work situation, or perhaps even a positive environment for a balanced work/play interface. Whatever the reason, here they are, part of the band of American expatriates among whom there have been some very impressive names: James McNeil Whistler did for London what Van Gogh did for sunflowers, Harry Gordon Selfridge brought us our first department store, Nancy Astor blazed the trail for women in Parliament, and was frequently at loggerheads with Winston Churchill, who was brought to us in no small measure by Jennie Jerome...

Organizations such as the Democrats Abroad and the Republicans Abroad keep them in touch with the US political scene, and both these groups are campaigning hotly for a Congressman to represent their interests. Since many Americans resident in England still pay US taxes, they feel they have a right to representation (a right for which, ironically enough, their ancestors dumped a lot of tea into Boston Harbour and subsequently sent us packing just over 200 years ago). They are very aware of America's geographical and political isolation, and as inhabitants of Europe, they have a lot to say on the inflammatory topic of cruise missiles.

Because they speak the language, even if it's not quite the Queen's English, London's Americans do not have to rely on each other for company and support in the way that non-English speaking foreign communities do. Though they play softball together, and have been known to retreat into the *New York Times* or even McDonald's for a taste of home, they like to surround themselves with English people, and they have a natural talent for highlighting the local colour. In the presence of an American, a Brit's Britishness is thrown into relief. The occasion is given an international touch, and both parties can indulge in amusing speculations on the nature of America and Europe, à la Henry James. Once into this sort of conversation, it will not be long before the subject of Yankee commercialism crops up. This is America's original sin, and they talk about it the way we talk about the class system - deplored its injustices, and admitting that it seems too ingrown to uproot. One of the results of this of this commercialism is that you are expected to devote every moment of your waking day to furthering your career, just to keep up with your friends and colleagues with whom you discuss the appalling pressures of competition. There is rarely time in America to do the things they rave about in London, like taking a walk in the park or spending an evening at the theatre.

There was a time, not so long ago, when the British got very worked up over the Brain Drain. Every doctor and engineer trained in Britain seemed to be hoofing it to the United States, where all the money, the technology and the opportunities were. The long-standing trickle of Americans into England was never so dramatic, but it is nice to know they're here, enjoying an old European culture in a city that has built up its own comfortable patina over hundreds of years.

They've got the knowhow, but we've still got the *savoir-faire*.

Text and interviews by Artemis Cooper

FLAVIA
CORKSCREW'S
GOOD
FOOD
GUIDE

FLAVIA IS AT HER
LOCAL SHOW JUDGING THE
HOME-MADE JAM.

ON THE RIGHT THERE IS PLUM JAM

The point of this jam is not
gratification at tea-time,
but to help develop a race
of people with stainless steel
false teeth!

It's an old
recipe -
nearly all
stones and
very likely
to break
your teeth.

...without using their
recipes.

ON THE LEFT THERE IS RASPBERRY JAM
Actually... raspberry
jam is, in fact,
bramble jelly
these days.

IN THE MIDDLE THERE IS
GUINCE 'N' DAMSON COMBINED JAM
But these jars are
empty! Where's the jam?

Nor do we
exclude
gooseberries.
Nor
kumquats.
The
main
thing is
to be
thickly
spread.

...without using their
recipes.

Exactly! Just what WE
want to know: how to get jam...

We specialize in blank
labels. This is the
last one we're making
before we break the
MOULD.



SALAD FREAK

Andrea Tama
Los Angeles, California
Painter and print-maker

SOUL FOOD

Charles Angus
Washington DC
Dancer and Teacher

PIZZA AL GUSTO

Pazi Gambacini
New York, New York
BBC disc jockey

HOMINY GRITS

Alice Faye Kielhaber
Waco, Texas
Psychologist and physiotherapist

STEAK & BEANS

William Beaver
Grand Junction, Colorado
Executive, J Walter Thompson

Everything David Hockney went to L.A. for, I came to London to get away from. People say "Don't you miss the sunshine?" - but constant sunshine is boring, and I love to watch the seasons change. I came over here seven years ago and I love it. I like the neighbourhoods and the little shops. Culturally, London is the capital of a small country and a large empire. It's at the centre of everything you can be in touch with it all and still remain quiet and private. I paint at home but I do my print-making in Wapping, where there's some very exciting work going on, although I feel the British art scene is stuck. It's too academic and clubby, it's a real struggle for young British artists, and there's so much less funding for them here than in Germany or Japan. In L.A. art and architecture are designed to be seen from a car at 45 mph, because it's a car culture and people don't move unless they're in cars. Here you look up at buildings, or peer at paintings in galleries, windows as you walk along, and you can stop and enjoy them.

I love going back to Washington, but after a bit I think, I want to go home. My home is where my work is. My big break was in London, when I staged and directed *Babylon Berlin*, and things started to happen for me in England. In New York I would have been in a queue of hundred young black choreographers, but when I came here I was the only one. But London is very tough for black dancers - I can only think of five now working in major West End shows. Black people here seem less aware of their roots than they are in the States because they came to England by choice, wanting to assimilate themselves. American blacks were brought here by force, so they cling to their traditions and family structure. There is a danger of getting too laid back - it's so polite, and no one likes to raise their voice. Some things I don't mind picking up - my mother says I sound more English than the Queen, because I use words like "cheers", and "ta", and "na". But if I thought I was losing my get up and go, that's the day I'd leave.

I could have carried on being a radio executive in the States - I also could have cracked up. I hated being told the sort of music I had to play, and the sort of safe, "conservative" guests to get on the talk shows who could be guaranteed to get the listeners phoning in, but wouldn't say anything very profound. Working for the BBC I get to do what I want. I like living in London - it satisfies all my passions: good theatre, good Italian food, and a soft ball team in summer. The music and entertainment business is all within walking distance, and there's a clubby feel in the way people run into each other all the time. The role of the DJ is more social here, too. I discovered this on one of our Fun Days Out, when Tony Blackburn and I were bouncing down a race-track on rubber balls. It was agony, but I looked up and saw all these people cheering - and I thought there must be more to this than I realized, if one can get this sort of crowd reaction just by bouncing along on a rubber ball.

I was a psychologist in Texas, and I came to London on a scholarship to train as a physiotherapist, with seven suicides and two small boys. I love the parks and the changing seasons and being able to walk everywhere, but it was hard at first - I remember sitting on the steps of London University and crying, because I had just sat through two hours of lecture with a posh professor, and I hadn't understood a word he said. I work now with emotionally disturbed children, and they try to teach me how to say things like "buy" and "Tuesday" properly. London's my home now, and my kids love it. I could not live in the houses and wear the clothes that I have here in Texas. Material things are so important that the children would suffer if I sent them to school in anything but Lacoste T shirts and Levi jeans. Southerners are like the English in that they are very hospitable and out-going on the surface, and private underneath. English men are so country. They wave you with flowers and cards.

London is a very exciting place visually - it's a treat to see so many parks and buildings so well taken care of. It's the tattiness round the edges that bothers me, because it is unnecessary. For example, the council will renovate Victorian houses with great care and expense, and yet the lawns outside them aren't mown or swept. When you ask why you've told it's the council's job, I've been in England ten years now, and my wife is British. I don't feel like a stranger, although in my work in corporate communications I find being American particularly useful. I can leap class barriers. I once thought I'd move back to the States. I was barely off the plane, and the first words I heard were "move your bag, mack". There's a general civility here that I find so important - though that too can go to extremes. I saw a lady on the tube poke a man in the eye with her umbrella, and his immediate reaction was "ooh I'm frightfully sorry".

Cuckoos in sheep's clothing

MOREOVER... Miles Kington



My mailbag has been flooded with letters about the authenticity or otherwise of birds which have featured in BBC films and world

history generally. I am printing a few of the more trustworthy, mostly, I am afraid, fake to me.

From Chestnut Donnelly

Sir, I was interested to read that the noted German war historian Hugh Trevor-Roper had been tracked down to Cambridge where he had adopted the new alias of Lord Dacre - a rather clumsy sobriquet for one who used to be so sharp. Now, I fear, his faculties are failing and he no longer seems able to distinguish between the genuine and the manufactured.

I myself have no doubts that the Hitler diaries are fake. In one of the extracts I have seen, Hitler writes: "Spring 1943, and I see in the London Times that they are again heralding the arrival of the first cuckoo. My God, these English live in a dream world."

It so happens that I was, at the time, ornithological adviser to *The Times* letter editor, and I well remember that we were forbidden to print letters during the War about the arrival of the cuckoo on the grounds that this might give away valuable knowledge about the annual climate to the Germans.

I remain
From David Irving

Sir, I became convinced that the Hitler diaries were genuine when I read the following passage: "Spring 1943: The weather is getting better and already the first Wassermann has arrived on its

long migratory trek from the desolate marshlands of Turkey. A good sign!"

This particular bird was only identified by Klaus Wassermann in 1978 and has only, I believe, been mentioned in one small survey in New England Bird Studies Vol XXIII. This publication is not on sale in Europe. Therefore any East German forgery factory could not have known about it!

I have just realized that Hitler could not have known either. I am convinced these diaries are fake.

Yours faithfully
From David Irving, of course.

From Sinclair Roentgen

Sir, I work in the BBC department at Bristol which does noises to or otherwise uninteresting films and I would like to draw to your attention an anachronism which takes place in real life. The surfing, as you know, is a famous mimic and will imitate anything around him. But how do we explain the fact that starlings are still to be heard imitating steam engines when there has not been a main line steam engine near Bristol for fifteen years?

Yours fretfully

From Mrs Elsie Pentland-Glory

Sir, I would have thought the answer to the previous letter was quite obvious. When parents read stories to their children, they find it very hard to imitate train noises of the modern kind - diesel trains are hard enough, but electric ones are impossible. Therefore they go on doing steam noises. These

starlings, sir, are imitating parents imitating steam trains, yours snugly

From Henry the Talking Avocet

Sir, I refer to a recent piece by whoever writes your editorials, in which the phrase occurs: "as likely as a bird doing a musical bell act".

I have been touring the music halls and clubs of this country since 1948, to enormous applause ("The funniest act seen in Colchester for many a month") - Essex Bird Studies Vol XXIII. I believe I am the only diaries are fake.

Yours faithfully

From David Irving, of course.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 53)

ACROSS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Uncover (6)							
5 Portrait (6)							
6 W.C. (3)							
9 Account (6)							
10 House cleaner (6)							
11 Proper (8)							
12 Disapprove (6)							
13 Sprightly (6)							
14 Of dance (8)							
20 Fruit (4)							
21 Hug (6)							
23 Convoy manoeuvre (6)							
24 Turkish cap (3)							
25 Sill (6)							
26 Native of Delhi (6)							
DOWN							
2 Below (5)							
3 Unripe (7)							
4 Aphelion (7)							
5 Classic architecture (6)							
14 Boldness (7)							
15 Bath swin... (7)							
18 Shell (5)							
19 Burglary (5)							
22 Mamis (3)							

SOLUTION TO No 52

ACROSS: 1. Fester; 4. Pimper; 7. Code; 8. Normally; 9. Escapism; 12. Own

15. Drive; 16. Stance; 17. DOE; 19. Telephone; 24. Regulates; 25. Fool; 26. Rental; 27. Venues.

DOWN: 2. Below; 3. Sideswipe; 5. Run up; 6. Paris; 7. Toad; 8. Alert; 10. Obese; 12. Omoxizol; 13. Ne'er; 14. Sud; 15. Obstet; 16. Alert; 17. Want; 23. Play.

BOOKS

Period rich in disorder

The Squandered Peace.

By John Vaizey

(Hodder & Stoughton, £14.95)

In the second news section of the *New York Times* every Sunday there is a valuable feature called "Follow-up of the news" in which interesting stories that have leaked away unconfirmed in previous issues are continued and brought up to date. Independently of its other uses John Vaizey's *The Squandered Peace* can serve, on its much larger scale, a comparable purpose for all those who feel they may have missed something on the turbulent world scene during the post-war years.

A history of world politics from 1945 to 1975 is bound to be a bit of a jumble, as events that are important in more than one segment of the whole drama come round again like horses on a roundabout, like the U2 affair, for example, or the Yom Kippur war. John Vaizey has not let this and other inevitable departures from strictly linear narrative worry him unduly. The whole operation, indeed, is conducted with a Wellingtonian combination of crispness and resolution. The style is the plain, categorical English of someone who knows what he thinks and is not ashamed of it, delightfully unpoluted by evasive leadership or by the dilutions of self-conscious "scholarship".

Spaces are ringingly identified as such. The UN not only serves as a handy diplomatic meeting-place, it provides "well-paid jobs for seemingly numberless Scandinavians and, subsequently, Indians". "The war was fought far too strenuously by the British both materially and economically". British operations at Suez were of "quite extraordinary military inefficiency". President Kennedy's "lust for laurel wreath led him into thoughtless pugnacity". The lack of defensive upholders from John Vaizey's prose is reminiscent of Bernard Russell's, even if delivered from the other end of the ideological pitch. "Mossadeq's moves", he writes, "were originally fanned by the Ameri-

cans who thought they saw a chance for new profitable deals for their own oil companies, but when they saw the reality of Mossadeq they changed their tune and arranged for him to be overthrown and for the Shah to be reinstated."

Stalin is, of course, the Satan of John Vaizey's epic, but the other villains are an interesting group: Eden, collapsing into tantrums and hysteria; Dulles, putting his foot into it every where; Galbraith, the emblematic leftist travelling first class. Among heroes are Truman, for doing what he could to counteract the anti-British and pro-Russian foibles of the dying Roosevelt; Marshall, for engineering the amazing recovery of western Europe immediately after the war (while we struggled along in "bureaucratically imposed austerity"); MacArthur, for the brilliance of the Inchon landing. Sympathy is shown to Lyndon Johnson for defection by Vietnam from his large vision of domestic reform, and to Stevenson and Gaitskell for coming in second to lesser men.

The story divides into an opening half-decade of post-war improvisation and position-taking that has proved notably solid; the decade of the 1950s with great new triumphs for capitalism, in the West, the emergence of West Germany and Red China and decolonization, successful against the West, crushed in the Communist world; the 1960s ending in the U.S. catastrophe in Vietnam, Castro and other disorders in Latin America; a final half-decade of OPEC challenge and increasing economic trouble for the West.

The Squandered Peace is a narrative and a highly detailed one. John Vaizey shows brilliant powers of condensation as in his accounts of Algeria, the Congo troubles, and the final melodrama of Nixon's presidency. But it is more than a narrative: the unwieldy mass of material is judiciously ordered and no less valuable reflectively commented on. Some of this comment is on issues of limited scope. Here John Vaizey is guided by fine old British "imprints" from whose expression he is no way inhibited by modish timidity.

Anthony Quinton

The fall of a dynasty

The Last Prince of Wales

By David Stephenson

(Baracuda Books, £7.50)

After 700 years failure still clings to the Prince of Wales, muddling the tragedy. One Nationalist even refused to attend the anniversary ceremony last December on the grounds that a head of state who had contrived to get himself mugged was not worth his attention.

Llywelyn was the first and the last Welsh Prince of Wales to be recognized by the English Crown. He had everything, and then lost it in two wars, in the first of which, in 1277, his power shrank to the rump of his

ancestral lands. In the second, five years later, he lost his life.

It is the second war which underlined the failure for historians. The accepted version has been that he did not even start it, being dragged into it like a sleep-walker by his brother David, that master of the triple-cross. He was killed mysteriously, not at the head of his troops but in a dusk encounter with a small party of Englishmen.

The importance of this book is its examination of the five years between the wars. Dr Stephenson shows that the Prince of tradition, the broken figure brooding in the mountains, was in reality his old ruthless self, intriguing against his enemies, punishing those whom he could get his hands on.

The last war, he maintains,

Byron Rogers

was to the Prince's own master plan.

And when it was over there was a feeling among the bands that there had been an end of things. A dynasty that had had its origins in Roman provincial administration had fallen.

Dr Stephenson's narrative is an "excellent" condensation of what happened. The one missing feature is the price: £7.95 is a bit steep for 78 pages of text.

But his achievement has been to restore the tragedy. The great gambler of Welsh history made his last throw at Clarendon, and the stone which records his death has inscriptions in the two languages, the Welsh version being longer by one word. It is in memory of Llywelyn, LAST Prince of Wales.

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Byron Rogers

The funniest autobiography I have read in a long time.

Nigel Dempster, DAILY MAIL

"Wonderfully zesty... detailed, racy, witty... vivid... valuable... wacky... anything but lightweight."

Michael Billington, GUARDIAN

"The best show business autobiography I have read since Miss Hart's *Act One*."

Peter Noble, SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

ON SALE NOW

Weidenfeld & Nicolson

DEFT AT HIGH-WIRE SUSPENSE WITH THE GRITTY TONE OF A LE CARRE'

A missionary priest, long thought dead, turns up after twenty years at the US Embassy in Bangkok. Leo Tunney has information in his secret diary wanted not only by the CIA and KGB but also by the Vatican's network of "holy spies". This is a brilliantly crafted thriller by a talented and original novelist.

SCHISM Bill Granger £1.95
A NEW ENGLISH LITERARY PAPERBACK



She may look as romantic as a Victorian painting, but she is a real fisher-girl baiting lines at Ranswick Bay, near Whitby, c. 1880, from *A Hundred Years Ago* by Colin Ford and Brian Harrison (Allen Lane, £2.25).

The watch that never ends

Siegfried Sassoon Diaries 1915-1918

Edited by Rupert Hart-Davis (Faber, £10.50)

The War Poems of Siegfried Sassoon

Edited by Rupert Hart-Davis (Faber, £5.25)

Open these *Diaries* and step smartly into hell. 30 June 1916 Somme, 6pm. "Pleasant trenches; mustard, charlock and white weeds growing across the trenches. Another dead man lying on the firing-step. News of M.C. before lunch. Battle begins tomorrow. Gibson's face in the first grey of dawn: when he found me alone at wire-cutting. Jaunty, flag-smoking demon under fire." Then Sassoon's own footnote, like a little white cross among a million others: "Lance-Corporal Gibson - a lad of nineteen from Whitehaven in Cumberland. Quite fearless. Killed on July 16."

Where does one begin a commentary on countless passages like this? Or does one just fall silent? Well - try to forget Gibson. Forget the other dead man of the firing-step. Forget the Ironic mention of Sassoon's Military Cross. Forget even the eye that is capable of noticing charlock and Bapaume. And people still say the War is "splendid", damn their eyes.

They overlay with Sassoon's

Memoirs of an Infantry Officer(1930), and the openly autobiographical *Siegfried's Journey* (1945), and show with what astonishing faithfulness he constructed these finished literary works of retrospective,

the voice of Siegfried Sassoon that sounds the most bitterly, the most savagely to us across the years.

"He's a cheery old cod," grunted Harry to Jack.

"As they slugged up to Arres with rifle and pack."

"But he did for them both by his plan of attack."

(The General)

Yet the voice belongs to a tall, reclusive, Foxhunting Man, who often seemed so remote from his peers, and from his troops: "the cheery, reckless sportsman - out for a dip at the *Bosches*" (his own ironic description); the "Mad Jack" of the trenches, who read Hardy and Tolstoy between engagements, and got up early to ride behind the Lines or make nature-notes. How did such a voice emerge from such a man?

This is the central drama of these *Diaries* 1915-1918, which read in conjunction with the re-issued *War Poems* (133 of them, 14 previously unpublished, nearly all now datable to a specific month of the War, if not an actual day) reveal a major writer being slowly battered into the full, terrible consciousness of what war means, and will always mean.

"Those garden-daws seem a very long way off now. And nothing before me but red daws flaring over Ypres and Bapaume. And people still say the War is 'splendid', damn their eyes."

They overlay with Sassoon's

Memoirs of an Infantry Officer(1930), and the openly autobiographical *Siegfried's Journey*

(1945), and show with what

astonishing faithfulness he

constructed these finished literary works of retrospective,

from the immediate, raw daily entries: (Compare for example the long entry of 25 May 1916 describing the death of Mick O'Brien in the mine crater, with "The Raid" chapter in

"The Raid" chapter in


**THE TIMES
DIARY**
When in Rome...

That Kenneth Macmillan is to direct Jill Bennett in Strindberg's sadly neglected *Dance of Death* at the Royal Exchange, Manchester, this autumn, is due to a chance meeting in a Rome hotel. Macmillan, principal choreographer of the Royal Ballet, was reading the play. Bennett, whose book *Godfrey: A Special Time Remembered* is published today, enthused about it. Macmillan has wanted to direct plays for years, "and I have been saying so in the newspapers for years", but his only previous chance has been two Ionesco plays at a pub theatre in Ealing.

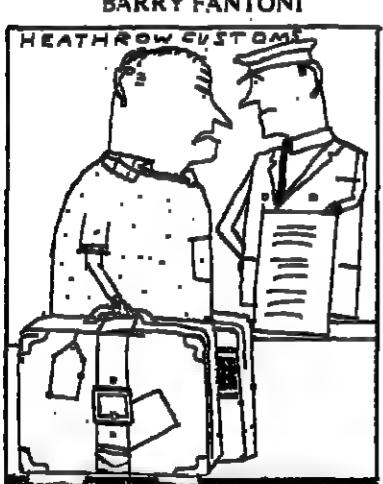
Just a pale green

This week's newsletter of the ecological pressure group, Green Alliance, has a front-page piece by Tom Burke, the director, on ways in which hasty "green" gloss is being applied to the grey clichés of party political manifesto. Burke notes that Roy Jenkins will soon make a major speech on the environment, adding: "What good news is to be expected from a party that has made an unequivocal commitment to put industry first remains to be seen." The writer fails to point out that he is himself SDP candidate for Brighton, Kempston.

According to Vauxhall's advertisements, the Nova is "deceptively large". Since it looks quite little I suppose it must be terribly cramped inside.

End of an epoch

Giuseppe Sinopoli, who conducts the hugely successful *Manon Lescaut* at Covent Garden, has newly abandoned composition, for the time being at least. Only two years ago his first opera *LouSalome* was well received when produced in Munich. Suites from it have since been performed in many European capitals. Now Sinopoli says he has given up composing: "Sometimes I think that music has reached the end of an epoch... The interior logic is lost, the reason for the music is lost."

BARRY FANTONI

Save fffs!

Robin Swales, of Polyplus Laminates, tells me the response to his new Green Picnic movement to save the pound note has been overwhelming. Since my note (Diary, April 21) about his offer to encapsulate threatened ongers in durable plastic he has received £9,000 for treatment. He has resisted catching the first plane to Barbados but says enough is enough. Henceforward he offers a Save the Pound Note kit complete with petition card, a sticker and ready laminated £1 for the price of £1.99.

Jam on it

Prizes of a Tiffany trophy, \$2,500 and a Carnegie Hall debut were not the biggest for saxophonist John Harle when he won the Concert Artists Guild Amcon award in New York at the weekend. Harle, a Newcastle man who used to play with the Coldstream Guards at Buckingham Palace, got his greatest thrill when he heard that his boyhood idol, Benny Goodman, had been in the audience, and now wants to play duets with him.

The GLC is advertising for two information officers required as part of its plans "for regenerating industry and employment within London." The information consultant to whom applications are to be addressed is in Brighton.

Sinking feeling

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PHS

When I became Home Secretary in 1979 I set myself four objectives in prison policy. First, to open up the prisons to the media and so stimulate public interest and debate as the essential background to remedial action.

Second, to obtain the money necessary for a substantial programme of new prison building and for improving and maintaining existing prisons. Third, to strengthen the morale in the prison service, particularly by encouraging closer cooperation between management, governors and staff.

Finally, to encourage a more economical use of our prisons by promoting and extending non-custodial sentences and by emphasizing the value of shorter sentences in appropriate cases for non-violent offenders.

At a time of rising crime, I had no illusions about the daunting nature of the task. I also appreciated that greater public debate would certainly lead to criticisms.

Here I want to carry the debate forward by posing the basic dilemma of overcrowding. I consider it essential to do this because many of the arguments, and indeed the criticisms put forward, simply do not face up to the gravity of the problem.

Much has been achieved in the last four years. I immediately accepted the May Committee's recommendations on pay; and I have also implemented or am implementing many of the other recommendations on matters such as departmental organization, industrial relations and training. I have revised the prison building programme, which has already produced 2,000 new places in the last two years. In the next four years it will produce 3,000 more.

Capital expenditure is now almost double what it was in cash terms in 1979-80. Four new prisons are under construction and six more are at various stages of design and planning. I very much hope that we shall be able to bring some of this accommodation into use sooner by shortening the process of design and construction. I have increased and am increasing the numbers of prison officers. By 1984 there will be 18,000

The arguments, legal and ethical, over the Voluntary Euthanasia Society and its activities will not end with the court case recently concluded, in which Mr Justice Woolf revived floods of darkness on the questions raised. The leading article in this newspaper dealt largely with the puzzling use of the civil law to decide a matter appropriate to the criminal courts (mind you; it is puzzling only to those who have not noticed that the Attorney-General was involved in the proceedings from start to finish, thus ensuring maximum confusion). Miss Gillian Tindall, a few days later, put the case, on this page, for the Voluntary Euthanasia Society and its wish to disseminate information that will help intending suicides to achieve their aim. Now I propose to put the case against it.

I must first draw attention to the title of the society's do-it-yourself suicide manual; it is called *A Guide to Self-Deliverance*. This rich and striking example of Newspeak suggests that the society's leaders are by no means so sure of themselves as they would like us to think. The booklet, after all, as is admitted by the society (it is not available to non-members, or even to members under 25), gives advice to those who wish to commit suicide; it would surely be better, therefore, to call it *A Guide to Suicide*, or, even more plainly and honestly, *How to Kill Yourself*. This question of nomenclature is not the most important, but it is not at all unimportant, and should be borne in mind; "Self-Deliverance" in this context is a sanitized word, a perfumed word, an advertiser's or vendor's word, and we have the right to ask why it was used.

Miss Tindall, in her article, quoted a remark made by one of the counsel in the legal proceedings, presumably counsel for the defendant: he spoke of "the sovereign, unalienable and absolute right to die". That, clearly, is the heart of the argument, and I shall return to it, but first there are some other matters to get out of the way.

Suicide is no longer a crime; it used to be the one offence on the Statute Book that was punishable only if it was unsuccessful, which was widely portrayed as absurd, but obviously the point of the criminal law was to put a barrier before those who would help others to kill

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PHS

The Home Secretary replies to his critics

Prisons: no easy way out

by William Whitelaw

compared with 15,700 in 1979, an increase of 15 per cent.

Prisons must provide places for all those whom judges and magistrates decide should be sent there. I do not believe that the criminal justice system would have the confidence of law-abiding citizens if the executive were regularly to override judicial decisions as a means of escaping from difficulties.

There is no certainty that government action, such as executive release, would have a lasting effect on the prison population since courts might adjust their sentences to the effective level they considered appropriate. And the damage to public confidence could be very serious.

So there will always be uncertainties about the future levels for which prison accommodation is needed. There are limits to the accuracy with which you can project the future from past trends. No one can predict future overcrowding. For these reasons, the best solution to overcrowding and bad conditions lies in a two-pronged approach.

This programme will require considerable resources, but so would any other. Those who think that good prison conditions can be

achieved simply by reducing the prison population must face certain facts. Essential maintenance to existing prisons, even without substantial refurbishment or redevelopment, will cost about £125m over the next five years.

The Government's programmes are a very great improvement on anything done previously this century. To remedy the effects of decades of neglect, we still face a long, hard slog. No one has expressed the need for urgent action more forcefully than did the Lord Chief Justice, speaking in the House of Lords last year: "If the prison system were to break down, then all of us – judges, Your Lordships and the rest of the population – would inevitably suffer catastrophe".

We are not suggesting luxury in the prisons. We must, however, keep up the programme of improvement until there is adequate accommodation in tolerable conditions throughout the prison system. This is the first government that has been prepared not only to say so but to take the action necessary to produce results.

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Ronald Butt

No, CND simply isn't gospel

When Mr Michael Heseltine drew public attention to the predominantly socialist and communist connections of the leading figures in CND he was accused of smearing it. The principal complaint was, presumably, that by naming only left-wing figures, he implied that CND is itself a left-wing organization when in claims to be something wider. (Those who are socialist or communist out of principle can hardly regard the labels as insulting.) CND could, therefore, quickly earn an apology by producing lists of Conservative and Social Democrats in their upper ranks.

Alternatively, the complaint could relate to the well-meaning rank-and-file members of CND who, though they may predominantly read *The Guardian* and would never dream of voting Conservative, none the less regard themselves as without formal political affiliation. They may feel particularly offended by the suggestion that CND is in practice helpful to the Soviet Union when all they consciously want is to diminish the risk of nuclear war.

If a politician, or anyone else, thinks in good faith that such is the practical effect of CND, he has the right to say so, and its sympathizers should listen to his case. The charge that the Government is smearing CND is easily refuted. But what of the organization's latest and gravest embarrassment?

Outrage has been caused among CND sympathizers by Cardinal Hume's daring to raise the question of a possible conflict between Monsignor Bruce Kent's obligations as a priest and his function as a leader of CND. The Cardinal is accused of capitulating to political pressure. Since he has denied that the Government put any pressure on him, the charge presumably means that he has allowed himself to hear the voices of lay Catholics who (with consciences as good as those of CND Catholics) disagree with CND, and that he had decided that CND's activities are too politically controversial for a priest to lead it.

The Cardinal's analysis of the conflict of loyalties has virtually been substantiated by Mgr Kent himself, who has observed not only that it is right for priests to be involved in issues like nuclear disarmament, but that if the church was not a participant "then I don't think it's the right church for me."

In other words, Mgr Kent prefers the particular to the general loyalty. He believes that what he thinks right to fulfil his particular cause of unilateral nuclear disarmament is more important than the ability of priests and ministers to stand together outside particular political, and inevitably fallible schemes for stopping nuclear war. Their ability to be united so as to be more effective in moving the consciences of mankind to reject all war as evil takes second place.

The case against the politicized clerics of CND is not that they believe (as any individual might) that CND tactics are good for peace but that they invest their particular campaign with the quality of an ultimate moral imperative, though other Christians believe that it adds to the risk of war.

A sentence in a leading article in *The Times* on April 27 described Mgr Kent as the Canon Dick Sheppard of today. He is not and

neither is the Reverend Paul Oestreicher, and the CND is nothing like Dick Sheppard's Peace Pledge Union.

Dick Sheppard was one of the most admired and publicly loved men of his time. The Archbishop of Canterbury acknowledged him, when he died, as "almost a son." He was a great preacher who, as Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields, filled his church by preaching an evangelical Christianity much wider and larger than his pacifism. He commanded a large audience in the early days of wireless; he preached church reform and everyday Christianity, and despite the difficulties that his PPU created, he clung doggedly to his church.

His message of peace reflected the it-must-never-happen-again mood after a war that was no more than 10 to 15 years away at the height of his fame. Though there were politicians in the PPU, it was not a political organization as CND is. Naively, Sheppard wrote to Hitler, asking to preach pacifism in Germany. At moments of wilder optimism, pacifists thought of themselves as standing self-sacrifically between belligerents to stop war. It was a creed born of experience in the trenches and it was based on a decision of principle not to kill. It was not a policy of renouncing one type of weapon but not others.

It was a noble fantasy which did some harm by contributing to the general reluctance to face the danger that war could happen again. Of course, the PPU included politicians. But it was fundamentally a religious (even for its non-Christians) rather than a political movement. Its principles were absolute. It did not descend to the sort of tactics which today suggest that Britain should abandon nuclear weapons but should accept (if possible) a non-nuclear Nato or a non-nuclear defence of Europe.

These are no more than political schemes that have nothing to do with Christian pacifism but merely concern whether peace is made more or less likely by renouncing nuclear defence. It is a policy with nothing to say about the relative moral justification (if any) of Dresden versus Hiroshima. For some of its leaders, it may be the thin end of a genuinely pacifist wedge, but for others, the wedge is Marxist.

An individual's religion should determine his political and private decisions in situations as they occur. Religion cannot provide (short of the great pacifist renunciation and self-sacrifice for which few are brave enough) ready-made political solutions, with ultimate validity, for the avoidance of war. All war is evil; bombs of any kind are evil. But is keeping the threat of using nuclear weapons less moral, if it seems likely to prevent war, than abandoning it if that is thought to make war more likely?

Whether you fight to defend yourself, your wife, your child or your neighbour is an ultimate religious question. How best to avoid war is political calculation (though it must be taken in good faith), and any CND priest who claims more than that for his activities cannot, surely, understand what he is doing.

P. G. Wodehouse

Printer's Error

Jeeves and Bertie Wooster

will be chuckle over while anyone reads a novel. But P. G. Wodehouse had another literary gift – as a writer of comic verse. This poem, from a collection published in the 1960s, demonstrates that there is nothing new in the very occasional misprint

As o'er my latest book I pored,
Enjoying it immensely.
I suddenly exclaimed "Good Lord!"
And gripped the volume tensely.
"Golly!" I cried, I writhed in pain.
"They've done it on me once again!"
And furrows creased my brow.
I'd written (which I thought) good
But they'd printed it wrong.

I'd written

And some vile, careless, casual gunk
Had spoiled the best thing in the book.

By printing "not"

(Yes, "not", great Scott!)

When I had written "now."

On murder in the first degree

The Law, I knew is rigid:

It's attitude, if a kill's B.

To A is always rigid.

It counts it not a trivial slip

If on behalf of authorship

You liquidate composers.

This kind of conduct abhors

And seldom will allow.

Nevertheless, I deemed it best

And in the public interest

To buy a gun, to oil it well,

Inserting what is called a shell,

And go and pot

With sudden shot

This printer who had printed "not"

When I had written "now."

I tracked the boulder to his den

Through private information:

I said, "Good afternoon," and then

Explained the situation:

"I'm not a fussy man," I said.

"I smile when you put 'rid' for 'red'

And 'bad' for 'bed' and 'hood' for 'head'."

And "bolge" instead of "bough."

When "wone" appears in lieu of "wine"

Or if you write "Cohn" to "Schine,"

I never make a row.

I know how easy errors are.

But this time you have gone too far.

By printing "not" when you knew what



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ Telephone: 01-837 1234

ONE INCH AT A TIME

It is good that the latest Soviet offer in the disarmament negotiations has been welcomed in Washington, albeit cautiously, as a sign of progress. The proposal to negotiate an agreement which would achieve an approximate equality both as regards medium-range delivery vehicles - missiles and aircraft - and in the number of warheads carried by them, goes some way towards meeting Western objections about the triple-warhead SS-20 missile. Clearly any proposal from the USSR which might break the stalemate at the Geneva talks must be fully discussed by NATO, and no opportunity for balanced reductions should be lost from an excess of suspicion.

But a note of caution is justified. The offer was made public at a Kremlin banquet for the East German leader, Erich Honecker, and was not an official proposal at the Geneva talks, nor was it made to a high-level Western visitor. Of course, the leader of the Soviet Communist Party, Yuri Andropov, speaks with the full confidence that all his statements made in public bear an official stamp of approval. There will be no open objections from any unconsulted Politburo member and no risk of criticism being expressed by Warsaw Pact allies.

Nor, however, was there any possibility during the banquet of elucidating the precise position regarding the British and French nuclear deterrents. Comrade Andropov stressed that the USSR was prepared to reach agreement "with due account for the corresponding armaments of Britain and France" and that it would be in the event of a reduction of the number of warheads on British and French missiles that the USSR would reduce by an equivalent amount the warheads on Soviet medium range missiles.

Yet the NATO allies have been adamant in insisting that the British and French deterrents, being chiefly long-range strategic weapons, cannot be included in the intermediate nuclear forces (INF) talks between the United States and the Soviet Union, nor can they be included in any way equivalent to the Soviet intermediate-range SS-20 missiles. Both the French Foreign Minister, Claude Cheysson and the British Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office Malcolm Rifkind, made this point very strongly during their recent visits to Moscow.

Leading American newspapers are accused in *Pravda* of "hushing up" such important proposals as convening a meeting of Soviet and American scientists to discuss the consequences of creating the vast anti-missile defence system announced by President Reagan, or signing an international treaty banning the deployment of weapons in space. Moscow has accused both President Reagan and the Nato Secretary-General, Joseph Luns, of spreading lies about the "Soviet threat" in order to nullify the "peace movements" and achieve military superiority over the USSR in preparation for a nuclear war.

Such allegations do nothing to promote an atmosphere of trust in which the Geneva talks can be expected to bear fruitful results.

Every word spoken in public by the Soviet leaders is available to citizens of Western countries. It is the peoples of the USSR which are deprived of the right to compare the statements made by Western politicians with those of their own leaders, and of influencing the decisions of their government on disarmament.

Western caution, although understandable, should never exclude willingness to pursue every possibility of genuine agreement with the USSR. The latest Soviet offer is at least a promise that the complex negotiations at Geneva will continue, and this must be to the benefit of both sides.

APATHY AT THE PARISH PUMP

It makes a difference whose colours fly from the town hall flagstaff. In some areas the quality of local administration is immediately apparent: in the flowerbeds along the boulevards, the absence of planning blight, a palpable sense of civic pride. Good local government does not flow from the closeness of a council's connexions with Central Office or Transport House.

In Birmingham sound and moderate policy has been a prerogative of alternating Labour and Tory administrations; similarly in Leeds - as Liverpool has shown - can be a recipe for disaster. The culture of municipal politics is diverse, so all praise to the civic activists from all parties and none (ratepayers' associations still form a useful leavening for the party pie) who tramp the streets with leaflets and registers providing the citizenry with at least the opportunity to take part.

Today's contests are, whatever the psephological burdens they are being made to carry by pundits and prime ministerial advisers alike, local elections. The 369 town halls facing the popular test between them command a "local state" costing more than £25 billions of public money: there ought to be more than enough opportunities to reward and punish the councillors revelling in that most

equisite pleasure of spending other people's money.

In almost every one of the financial changes made by the present government since it introduced its first local government Bill in the autumn of 1979 a vital piece of machinery has been the willingness of electors to turn the rascals out - if councillors were "over-spending" or found wanting according to the new scales of evaluation introduced along with the block grants and comparative costings with which the Department of Environment has recently been preoccupied. Local electors now know volumes about the comparative cost performance of their town halls and the achievement of value for money by their refuse collectors, planners, bus drivers, librarians and road-menders.

In an ideal world, as conceived by Mr Tom King and his civil servants, voters would go armed to the polls with one of those voluminous lists of council costs prepared by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. But, alas, this has not happened nor is it likely today. Large-scale apathy is sadly a constant element in municipal polling - and was so long before this government was accused of the sin of centralization. After an exhaustive study of councils elections in 1964, a political scientist concluded:

"There is little support in all this (data) for a theory of local government that is based on the notion of the self-governing community, limited to an area that can encompass the local loyalty of its population." The judgement is harsh, but its validity was reinforced in the 1970s by a reorganization of boundaries and functions which has further increased the distance, geographical and psychological, between the people and their local governors.

Grand thoughts of civic participation seem to fit ill with the practical reality of cesspool emptying in Fenland or fire-fighting in Durham or the control of sex-shops in Southampton. Yet councils can do these things more or less cheaply, more or less efficiently, more or less on behalf of the public rather than the vested interests of their own staff.

Local government is awash nowadays with sufficient information for judgments to be intelligently made - in a city such as Birmingham, the choice would probably be Mr Neville Bowesorth and the Conservatives. Today's election ought not, primarily, to be a beauty contest for national party politicians. It is, in the nature of all local elections, an interweaving of parochial issues with national policies and moods. Let the parish pump not be forgotten.

THE MERGER HURDLE

The reluctance of Sotheby's the auctioneers to sell itself to the highest bidder - in this case to self-made New York based financiers with no background in, or experience of, the art market - reflects the dilemma of the Government when they seek to implement a coherent and logical merger policy. It is the conflict of head and heart, of belief in free markets and their tendency to regulate things over time in the best way for society as a whole, and the desire that things British should remain British and be helped to do so.

Yesterday Lord Cockfield, the Trade Secretary, moved boldly where many less positive ministers might have feared to tread, and referred the proposed acquisition of Sotheby's to the Monopolies Commission. In doing so he over-ruled the expert advice of the Office of Fair Trading and its head Sir Gordon Borrie who took the view that the takeover should be allowed to proceed.

This decision highlights yet again the peculiarities of monopoly and mergers policy in this country. Yesterday's decision has nothing to do with monopoly - Sotheby is not a monopoly in any recognized sense and even if it were its acquisition by a different set of proprietors would not effect this aspect of its trading. Rather the reference to the commission is made under the broad catch-all provision of the 1973 Fair Trading Act which, after outlining areas of concern under which

mergers should be examined, including competition, regional policy and maintenance of exports, then added that references could also be made and decisions reached with regard to the "public interest." So in this respect Lord Cockfield makes a fair point when he says that the Sotheby's battle has aroused the public imagination. It does not follow, however, that the public interest would be served if the bid were subject to closer official examination and in this case there is certainly no evidence that it would.

Unfortunately the reality of the reference is more complicated. The experience of recent years shows that things seldom stand still once a merger is referred to the Commission: roughly a third of bidders drop out rather than submit to the six months of bureaucratic wrangling and uncertainty, a third find their bids blocked, and the remainder get clearance. Those odds are poor enough for the bidder, but there is a further consequence for in many cases the six-months reprieve granted to the defending company allows it to order its defences so that it is then impregnable to renewed attack.

The upshot is that any company which finds itself in receipt of an unwanted bid - and most bids are unwelcome at least in the boardroom - now seeks as a first line of defence to have the bid referred - regardless of

what was not. That statement was in the end not published for reasons which were never fully explained. But as yesterday's decision shows, the need for such clarification remains as great as ever.

Snag in portable pensions plan

From Lord Byers

Sir, Ignoring the fact that 0 behaves differently from other numbers can lead to some elementary mistakes in arithmetic. This is equally true of the arithmetic of pensions.

It is unfortunate that the recent paper by the Centre for Policy Studies on the subject of pension rights for job-changers has been greeted by some as the answer to the problem, since the paper falls into just this mistake. A central point of the paper's argument is that younger members should not only their contribution but also their employer's contribution removed from a final salary pension scheme and invested in a personal annuity.

In a final salary scheme the employer meets the balance of the cost after taking into account what the employee's contributions will buy. For younger members there is no balance to be met since the member's own contributions will purchase all the pension he has earned so far. Thus the employer is spending nothing on his younger employees and diverting that nothing into a personal annuity will produce a pension of nothing.

It is odd to talk as the paper does, about the traditional attitude that the employee should receive no more than a refund of contributions when leaving, when a Social Security Act requiring more generous treatment was passed no less than 10 years ago.

Claiming that the promise of two-thirds retirement pay is an illusion for most employees is also peculiar. It is precisely because changing jobs is a fact of life and has been for many years that the vast majority of pension schemes do not promise two thirds of final pay but one-sixth for each year of membership.

In fact a target of two thirds would be very high for the majority of people since the effect of adding on the basic state pension for a married couple and allowing for tax and National Insurance contributions is to create a higher net income just after retirement than just before at levels of earnings up to about £1,800.

Many people who work in pensions would like to see more done for the early leaver, but real progress demands a greater awareness of the position we are starting from and a greater awareness of the fact that any real improvement has a real price tag attached.

Yours faithfully,
BYERS, Chairman,
Company Pensions Information
Centre, 7 Old Park Lane, WI.
May 3.

A TAX ON ENERGY

From Professor Ian Fells

Sir, The news that the European Commission is to propose a tax on energy consumption within the EEC is welcome. Some years ago I suggested that an energy-added tax (EAT) was to be preferred to VAT as it had the advantage of being quantifiable; those articles that had consumed large amounts of fuel in their manufacture would have been taxed most heavily. I made the suggestion to show that imaginative taxation could be used to encourage energy conservation.

A very simple example at the domestic level would be to make identifiable energy-saving expenditure on insulation, double glazing or temperature instrumentation tax-deductible. The EEC hope, of course, to raise money from an energy tax but additional energy conservation benefits could accrue. The tax on petrol is an example of a revenue-earning tax which has also encouraged the development of new, energy-efficient car engines.

It cannot be denied that the blunt instrument of the price mechanism has achieved a measure of success in conserving energy but it is very unsophisticated. A carefully structured taxation approach to energy conservation could restore the impetus which seems to have dwindled as oil prices have stabilized at what is still a very high level.

Yours faithfully,
IAN FELLS,
University of Newcastle upon Tyne,
Department of Chemical
Engineering,
Merz Court, Claremont Road,
Newcastle upon Tyne.

Service anomaly

From Mr B. R. Carron

Sir, I would like to lead my support to Mr Jack Ashley's article (April 20) relating to servicemen being prevented from suing the Crown or another serviceman for negligence. This causes considerable hardship to a negative finding.

The City is now littered with the rumps of deals which a commission reference was supposed to resolve - the Lonrho battle with House of Fraser, and the isolation of the Royal Bank of Scotland to name but two - which suggest that pragmatism is no long-term substitute for policy.

It suggests further that Lord Cockfield's instincts were correct when he earlier this year prepared a statement aimed at clarifying the government's attitude on what was acceptable and what was not. That statement was in the end not published for reasons which were never fully explained. But as yesterday's decision shows, the need for such clarification remains as great as ever.

Yours faithfully,
B. R. CARRON,
The Gables,
Lower Wimborne,
Swindon,
Wiltshire.

April 26.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Keeping the law within bounds

From Mr S. C. Silkin, QC, MP for Southwark Dulwich (Labour)

Sir, In your leader, "The wrong courts" (April 30) you contrast the decision of Woolf J. to refuse relief to the Attorney General in his civil action to stop the publication of *A Guide to Self-Deliverance* with the decision of the Court of Appeal to give injunctive relief to local authorities against unlawful Sunday traders. The common ground was that in both cases the actions complained of were alleged to constitute criminal offences.

You rightly comment that civil actions to prevent the commission of an offence or to declare that a defined act would be an offence were before local authorities became vested with powers previously enjoyed by the Attorney General alone.

It is surprising that the Attorney General thought it right to bring the "Exit" proceedings since the strongly held view that civil proceedings should only exceptionally be brought to restrain acts made criminally unlawful or to declare such acts to be unlawful was greatly reinforced by the unanimous decision of the House of Lords in the well-known case of *Gouriet*. In that case I was fortunate in having the advice of Treasury junior counsel, Mr Harry Woolf (as he then was), before deciding to refuse Mr Gouriet my consent to proceedings in the Attorney General's name.

The dangers of prejudging the very different factors involved in a criminal case were forcibly described in *Gouriet* by Lord Dilhorne amongst others. Whilst it is within the Attorney General's discretion whether to bring such proceedings, Woolf J. in the "Exit" case relied heavily on those very different factors in deciding that relief would be inappropriate. I agree with his view, which I should have expected the Attorney General to anticipate.

The situation described by you is, however, anomalous. It is understandable that local authorities faced with a repeated nuisance for the commission of which Parliament

has provided penalties which are more a licence fee than a deterrent, should wish to enlist the stronger deterrent of injunctive relief. None the less, as you rightly say, using the civil courts to enforce the criminal law is an extremely dangerous exercise. It is, in my view, so dangerous that Parliament alone should sanction it.

The Attorney General's discretion can safely be left with him because he is subject to Parliament's control. In all other cases there should be a strong presumption that when Parliament makes conduct criminal it intends the criminal law alone to be used and that express statutory words, or the clearest possible implication from the statutory language, is needed to displace that presumption.

It would then be for Parliament to decide whether, for example in health and safety legislation, civil in addition to criminal relief should be available. Without such a presumption the law is, and will continue to be, anomalous and obscure.

Yours faithfully,
SAM C. SILKIN,
House of Commons.
April 30.

Suicide booklet

From Dr Richard Lamerton

Sir, Since Mr Justice Woolf said that there were some circumstances under which the distribution of the euthanasia society's suicide booklet certainly would be a criminal act, why does your editorial (April 29) oppose a court case?

You recommend new legislation. Why? The Suicide Act is plain and sensible. Assisting a person to kill himself is criminal because the duty is to alleviate whatever distress is driving him to suicide.

This society would urge the Attorney General to bring a prosecution under the Act at once.

Yours sincerely,
RICHARD LAMERTON,
Human Rights Society,
27 Walpole Street, SW3.

Jerusalem for 2,000 years and you shall have it."

Apart from the cosmic dimension in which he saw the Jewish struggle, he also respected the Jewish contribution to civilization in more finite ways, such as in their abolition of slavery by the institution of the Sabbath. On one occasion he remarked that "We owe to the Jews very little separated from the supernatural, would be the most precious possession of mankind - worth, in fact, the fruits of all other wisdom and learning together."

Sir Winston Churchill pointed out many years ago the ultimate options that will determine the future of this troubled part of the world: either the state of Israel "will be realized here, not only for your own good but for the good of the world". Maybe it is not too late to consider how Sir Winston's wisdom might help us today to resolve the conflicts in the Middle East by mobilizing the conscience of the world.

I am convinced that his great insight into the "Palestinian problem" came from his own brand of religion - a blending of belief and scepticism. As a deist, he had no difficulty in acknowledging the transcendental meaning of Jerusalem and in appreciating the phenomenon of the Jewish people in the world. He was fond of quoting the saying that "God deals with nations as they deal with the Jews", and there are many who believe that Churchill was granted victory in 1945 because he had championed the Jewish cause consistently since 1936. He said: "You have prayed for

Failure of implantation is therefore a common process in nature. Its causes are unknown (though many of the lost concep- tions are probably abnormal). Post-coital contraception interferes with nature only by making it more likely that this natural process will occur.

I am sorry if these figures add further complexity to the legal debate on this subject. To me they emphasize the impossibility of finding a working definition of "the start of life". Life is a continuum, and although the question of when it begins may vex the armchair theorists, it is misleading of them to suggest resolving their debate by prosecuting people who are trying with true Christian charity - to help women in distress.

Yours faithfully,

OSCAR NEMON,

Pleasant Land,

The Ridgeway,

Bears Hill,

Oxford.

Railway architecture

From Mr Bernard Kaupas

Sir, Charles McLean's description of the Denmark Hill saga (feature, April 25) gives the misleading impression of a reluctant British Rail being dragged along by a local society and only when the brilliant idea of finding a beneficial use for the restored building was put to them by the society did they agree to it.

The converse is the truth: from the outset it was made clear to the Camberwell Society that, since there was no operational requirement for the area of the burnt-out premises, it was a *sine qua non* of the exercise that a commercial or community use had to be found for the rebuilt centre pavilion.

With this in mind Jeremy Bennett, the Southwark Environment Trust and British Rail have been working together closely and in full accord to attract the welcome and generous contributions from the Historic Buildings Council and the GLC, which are being matched pound for pound by British Rail.

For the past three years my board has been inviting all interested and responsible authorities and organizations to enter into joint partnership with us to prime the pump of urban renewal in our decaying city centres by cleaning and improving our crumbling Victorian building infrastructure.

We are meeting a growing and enthusiastic response based upon results such as Manchester Victoria and the Salford bridges, and our active long-term involvement with the Manpower Services Commission in the cause of helping the young unemployed. I am confident that Charles McLean might, in retrospect, wish to applaud and encourage such initiatives.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD KAUPAS,
Director Environment,
British Railways Board,
222 Marylebone Road, NW1.

April 29.

Unacceptable face of cable TV

From Mr Walter Hayes</p

Pensions

The trend towards earlier retirement makes pensions an increasingly important subject.

The National Association of Pension Funds today begins its diamond jubilee conference at Brighton. Margaret Drummond reports.

As delegates to the National Association of Pension Fund's Diamond Jubilee conference sit down at the Metropole Hotel in Brighton today they cannot complain about 1983 being a dull year.

There has been some radical thinking about pensions from the right as well as the perennial suggestions from the left. Change is in the air. The Government is seriously thinking about the possibility of giving individuals freedom of choice in pensions – it is studying recommendations that the earnings related part of the state scheme could be privatized, it has pressed the pension funds to do something about the plight of early leavers and it is considering important new legislation to cover pensions, currently somewhat inadequately catered for by trust law.

Attempts are also being made to set up for the first time an independent, low cost advice and arbitration service for employees, many of whom seem totally bewildered when faced with decisions about their pensions – for many the largest investment they will make in their lives.

By far the most fascinating of the current debates is on individual choice in pension schemes – the do-it-yourself pension as it has been swiftly dubbed. Many people have to join an occupational pension scheme as a condition of employment. In theory this seems fair considering the background to pensions in this country.

Until 20 years ago membership of pension schemes was largely voluntary, with the result that many workers faced the prospect of retirement without a proper pension, often relying on *ex gratia* payments by their employers or, more often, state benefits.

The philosophy behind the pensions upheavals of the mid-1970s was that everyone should have something decent to retire on. Occupational pensions expanded as many more employees found themselves members of schemes for the first

time – with the pleasant prospect of benefits superior to what they would get under the new state scheme.

Just over a month ago it was revealed that the Treasury was examining how the individual could best be allowed to do his or her own thing in pensions. Undoubtedly, the main philosophical thrust has come from the Government, and in particular Mrs Thatcher's belief in freedom of choice for the individual. But such a change also meets some of the practical drawbacks of occupational pension schemes.

It overcomes the most serious pitfall for many – the fact that anyone who changes jobs during his working life will be penalized. Most pension

Some hard thinking needed about tax

schemes work to a two-thirds of final salary formula – that being the maximum allowed under the tax rules. In practice only a small percentage of workers in private industry stand to get this generous amount. Most people change jobs several times, and each time, under present practice, they face a pension loss.

If an early leaver controlled his own pension destiny throughout his career there would be no loss as a result of changing jobs. But do-it-yourself pensions are not without pitfalls. No one, least of all a government with an eagle eye on public spending, wants to go back to the days of people ending up reliant on the state in their old age.

Clearly there must be some stiff rules and regulations about making sure the individual puts something away for old age, and that at least some of it (a half is contemplated) goes into approved investments.

There has to be some hard thinking about the tax situation at the moment employees are

allowed to put up to 15 per cent of their earnings into occupational pension schemes, compared with the 17½ per cent net relevant earnings permitted the self-employed. For the former, eventual benefits are restricted at present to the two-thirds, for the latter there is no such cut-off point. All these aspects need to be looked at carefully.

On a broader level, the idea is attractive both to those who resent the compulsory nature of occupational pension schemes and those who feel that the way to economic prosperity is to turn everyone into capitalists. Although half the pension contribution might go into "approved" investments the other half might be used for more entrepreneurial ventures – dear to the heart of Mrs Thatcher and her advisers.

It is also thought that individuals could get the scent of the profit motive in their nostrils if they were responsible for their own pensions. This would be good for the whole economy.

That at any rate is the theory – in practice it would bring great problems for the occupational pension schemes, who now subsidize the pensions of their older employees through the contributions of their younger members and early leavers.

In principle, the NAPF supports the Occupational Pensions Board recommendations for fuller disclosure, the provision to members of regular information such as annual reports and accounts and changes in the law which would make everyone concerned with running the pension scheme answerable to members.

Any new act would be hotly debated on all sides. A few months ago the TUC produced its suggestions, among them demands for union (not member) representation on boards of trustees and rather grandiose plans for the formation of a National Investment Bank to take up to £1,000m of pension fund money a year to support expansion of industry and jobs.

While these plans are unlikely to find much support among pension-fund members, let alone the managers who control the money, no one in

debate the possible contents of a new Pension Fund Act.

This is now expected to be less than a radical sweep, more of a tidying up and improvement in trust law relating to pension funds plus, perhaps most important of all, making the funds more accountable to their members.

The left may well support Mr Arthur Scargill's opposition to the investment of pension fund contributions abroad (now around 15 per cent of the total). But equally the present government is eager to listen to any plans to harness the pension fund treasure chest to reviving inner city areas, providing jobs and housing as well as capital, particularly for small business.

The Brighton conference may well produce a partial solution to one of the main problems of pensions – maintaining their real value. In the public sector pensions are index linked, but there is no such generous tradition in the private sector, which simply could not afford to make such an open-ended commitment.

Some companies do now guarantee a small – usually no more than 1 or 4 per cent annual. But there is no specific obligation.

Many people, especially early leavers, have seen their pensions fall massively behind inflation.



The change to a state earnings-related pension scheme, introduced in April 1978, heralded a new era in pension provision in the United Kingdom. But despite the plan of ensuring that all employed people would qualify for a pension based on their earnings, instead of just those who were part of a company pension, there remain substantial anomalies and outright faults in the system.

One of the most basic deficiencies is that the scheme does nothing to help pensioners already retired in 1978. In addition, the Civil Service was unable to come up with a way to include the self-employed so they were left out completely, forced to fend for themselves. Another major gap in the scheme is that the state scheme's pension formula only takes account of earnings up to a ceiling of about one and half times national average earnings.

The present limit is £235 a week and earnings above this limit do not qualify for the state pension. The result is that if your earnings are higher than the ceiling, the state pension is a lower percentage of salary.

Another problem concerns those who are now nearing retirement age, now 65 for a man and 60 for a woman. The scheme provides an earnings-related pension of 1/80th of earnings for each year of contributions with the best years to count on a revised basis. But it is only the years since April 1978 that count and although intermediate amounts are payable for those who do not build up their full potential entitlement to additional pension until April 1998, people retiring now still receive little more than the basic pension.

The scheme is based on a contributions test which means paying in for 90 per cent of working life and although periods of working abroad, taking a degree or just dropping out may be included, the only allowable gaps – periods when it is considered contributions have been made although they have not actually been paid – are during registered sickness, unemployment or during invalidity or maternity benefit. So it is still possible for employees who pass the test for a lot less than 90 per cent of the working life to get no basic pension at all.

Other problems concern women specifically because although married women may claim a pension on her husband's record if she does not have enough contributions of her own, he must have reached pensionable age and retired when she makes her claim. And while widows, aged over 40 at the time of the husband's death, may claim a pension based on the husband's contributions, widowers are only eligible to claim on the wife's record if both parties were at pensionable

RETIREMENT The snags in the state scheme: what do you get?

age when she died and he has retired anyway.

Divorced women are only able to claim on their former husband's contributions for years before the marriage ended and on remarriage, any claim on the former husband's contributions ceases.

Another major criticism of the state scheme is the lack of a lump sum payment on retirement or at death if the contributor is still working.

This is because the system was designed to be an income replacement scheme when an employee can no longer provide for him or herself and spouse and there is no facility for commuting part of the pension for a lump sum.

This is in contrast with company schemes which provide lump sums on death while working and allow employees to convert part of the pension into a tax-free lump sum.

A third component of the state scheme is the graduated pension. This is only for people who were at least 18 and employed between 1961 and 1975 and who earned more than £2 a week during that time. The scheme has now been abandoned but past contributions are still rewarded with a small pension, and although it has been increased in line with rising prices after April 1978, the maximum benefit for a man is under £4 a week and just over £3 for a woman and most people receive considerably less than these amounts.

At the same time as the additional pension scheme was introduced in 1978 employers who already ran occupational pension schemes could either join the new state scheme or contract out, allowing the occupational scheme to perform the same function as the state's additional pension.

These contracted out employees pay lower National Insurance contributions but the employer's scheme has to be at least as good as the additional scheme provided by the state. The main difference is that the employer is not expected to foot

the difference between the benefits and the increase in prices so the state pays the inflation increases to the pension after retirement. These schemes often provide other benefits such as long term sickness pay and payments on death for example as well as pension for a surviving spouse or dependents.

In spite of all the good intentions behind the erection of the improved state scheme there remains a fundamental problem and that is how will they be paid in 50 years time? As the number of pensioners increases in relation to the number of contributors, the state will have to cope with the increased burden of payment. The Institute of Fiscal Studies has already said that insufficient consideration was given to the long term cost when the state scheme was extended five years ago and even the Chancellor of the Exchequer has admitted that we have locked ourselves into providing benefits without making the economic adjustments necessary to sustain them.

The 1981 report of the Scott committee which looked at the extra value of index-linked public service pensions highlighted some of the problems and the differences between the private sector provision where inflation eats into the provision and the public sector whose beneficiaries are hoping that index linking will not be abolished.

The other bugbear, inflation, may disappear but is has never been considered safe when making social policy decisions in the recent past to assume that it will.

According to some estimates between the state and occupational pension schemes will mean that total expenditure on pensions will represent 30-35 per cent of total wages and salaries in 50 years time and this figure could go even higher, compared with about 17 per cent today.

Ultimately the question of employment, not just the overall economy, for while the trend continues of expansion down the technology path the result could either be a smaller and diminishing workforce or a return to full employment in new industries. If the latter happens schemes will have to be changed to cope with the number of people who transfer during their working life from one system to another.

And in the former case a rethink will have to be made to ensure a livelihood for those whose working lives are curtailed, or even shared for a greater part of their careers.

Rosemary Unsworth

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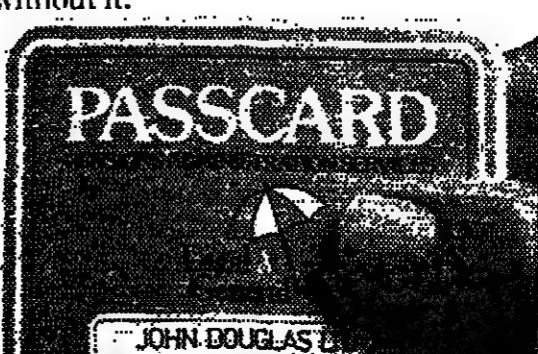
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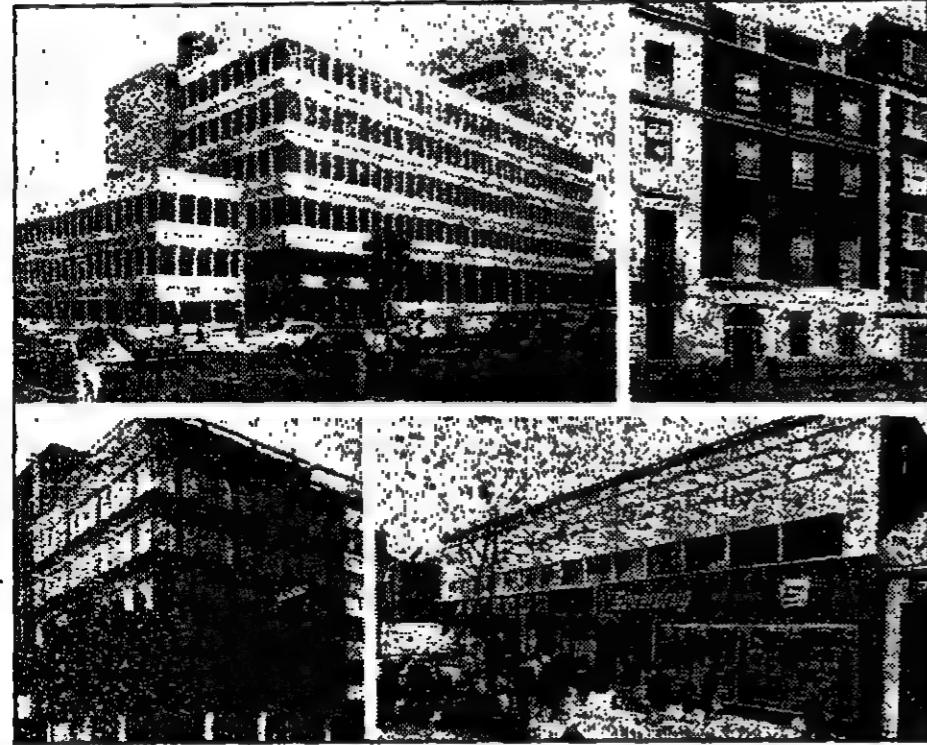


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During the last year some of the benefits incorporated in directors' contracts have come under fire; the most notable have been golden handshakes and golden parachute provisions when a board member arranges for substantial compensation in the event of loss of office, as well as facilities for cheap home loans.

But executive pensions, often described as "a nice perk if you can get it", have remained outside the orbit of envy and although the recession's effect on companies in the private sector has contributed to a slowing down in executive pension business, the schemes largely remain attractive and are still expanding.

The growth in the business has been during the last years since controlling directors have been allowed to join a company pension scheme. Before that they had to use provisions designed for the self-employed. And the key to the executive pension business has been its tax efficiency whereby shareholding directors have been able to take money out of the business as well as the opportunity to give executives better

benefits in retirement than other employees.

Controlling directors may still choose between a personal pension or a self-employed plan or an executive scheme but the benefits are calculated in different ways. Both the employer's contributions (and employee's if he or she contributes) under the executive scheme are fully tax deductible. Thus the employees can get tax relief at the highest rate of income tax, excluding the investment income surcharge. The benefit for the employer means that in the case of a company tax relief comes out of corporation tax and for an individual at the highest rate of tax again.

Under an executive scheme the contributions are invested in a fund which is tax free on its income from investments or deposits and free from capital gains tax and these allowances are in turn passed on to the beneficiary. The benefits may also be paid either as a tax free cash sum on retirement or as a pension which is regarded as earned income and not subject to investment income surcharge. Also if the employee dies while still working, any lump sum benefit can be paid so it too is free of capital transfer tax.

Besides the tax incentive of these schemes changing patterns in management as well as the

state pension scheme have brought about these developments. The British Institute of Management reported recently that in 1975 managers had changed jobs on average three times by the time they were between 35 and 39 compared with an average of just once 30 years ago. And it is reckoned that, by the time today's managers retire only one in 10 of them will have stayed with a single employer throughout their career.

But despite these changes pension schemes are still heavily biased in favour of the executive who stays with the same company all his working life. On top of this the more mobile manager may end up earning more than his more conservative counterpart and yet retire on a substantially smaller pension because of the inability to transfer his pension as he moves jobs.

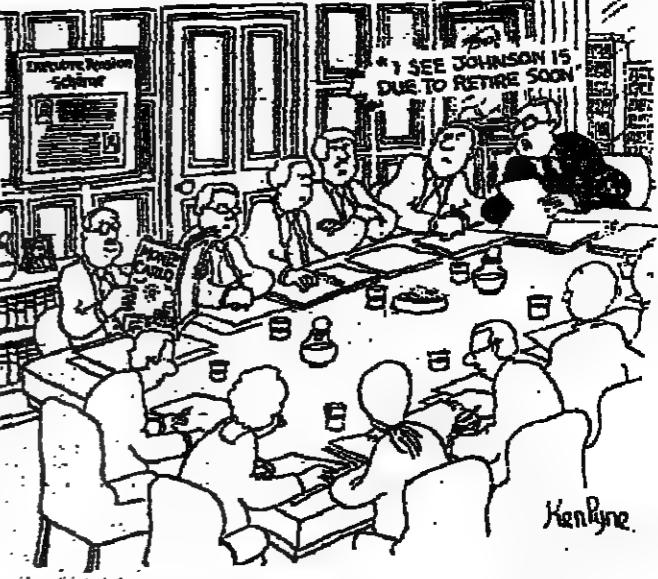
One estimate is that an employee who changes jobs once in his working life receives 60 per cent of the benefits of those who stay with one employer. The Occupational Pensions Board which looked at some of the problems in 1981 has been attacked for "simply nibbling" at the problem with a recommendation that reserved pensions should be improved at the rate of 5 per cent a year. The Inland Revenue's superannu-

ation funds office has been criticised for adhering to the notion that the proper basis for pensions calculations is 1/60 of final salary for each year of service and that no person should have more than two thirds of final salary as a pension.

As a result some schemes are available which an executive can take with him to the next job, allowing him to negotiate the level of contribution to a centralized trust which is inland Revenue approved and allows the relevant tax concessions.

The executive's own contribution must not exceed 15 per cent of his salary and the rate of interest credited to the fund is at least equal to the Building Society Association's recommended mortgage at the time. But even these few schemes are not so far entirely successful since most companies will not regard any single executive as so vital that they will want to take over an existing pension scheme from another employer.

A more pertinent benefit of executive schemes is the flexibility they offer at retirement, when the individual has a much clearer idea of his or her requirements. A scheme which incorporates a widow's pension may be of little use if the male executive is already widowed at retirement. In other cases where



Applied as a yearly premium to a pension plan, the retirement benefits could be substantially better than the salary increase.

A further attraction where owners of companies are concerned are loanbacks from the insurance company against the security of the policy or the pension fund itself for business development although these risks are borne by the policyholder. Several quotations should always be sought and the efficiency of a company may be measured by its ability to handle such queries as well as whether its benefits are realistically tied to its budget.

Controlling directors are among those who have the greatest need for effective tax planning because although there has been a substantial reduction in the higher rate bands following the 1979 budget a 10 per cent salary increase today for a £25,000 a year executive would net about £1,250 if tax is paid at the 50 per cent rate.

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Still showing its mettle

Sixty years ago a group of pension fund managers gathered together in what is now London Transport's head office to inaugurate a new association. That meeting is being celebrated by the pension fund industry this week, as the group grew into the National Association of Pension Funds. Although this was the formal beginning of the association, it had already shown its mettle. Its founder members had been at the forefront of those seeking income tax relief for superannuation funds. The lobby started in 1917, made such progress that by 1921 its requirements were incorporated in the Finance Act of that year.

The pension fund managers' intention was, as it is still, to have an association which could act to protect and develop the pension fund movement. The group at that first formal meeting in January, 1923, were by no means as great in numbers, funds or members as that in Brighton this week. But it was drawn from an impressively wide range of industries. *The Times* pension fund manager was there, as were the representatives of Cunard, and other shipping groups, Bournville, English Sewing Cotton, Manchester Corporation, and other public service bodies. The leading light was a Mr John Mitchell of the Omnibus, Railway and Equipment Company.

In 1983 the association members manage around £90,000m, and those funds cover around 93 per cent of people in occupational pension



NAPF leaders: Maxwell Lander, president; Maurice Oldfield, chairman; Tom Heyes, chairman-elect.



schemes. The association's 2,000 members and associates have to be more tightly organized to cope with the complexity of fiscal and legal requirements that have grown over the years. The association is, for example, the major point of contact in the industry for government bodies wanting information, as well as for its members with the outside world.

There is a full-time secretariate, run by Mr Henry James, the association's director-general. It has a number of committees formed to deal with such day-to-day necessities as finance and membership, but also education of newcomers into the industry, and international matters. This latter committee is of growing importance since Britain's membership of the European Economic Community.

Most vital of the committees are investment and the parliamentary committee. The parliamentary committee looks after the extremely important business of liaison with government, and lobbying for the legislation desired by the association members to help them carry on their business. But the attacks on the present structure of the pension fund industry by the trade union movement, and other interests, are changing this. Challenged with not accepting responsibility, the chief officers of pension funds are increasingly to be found letting it be known by speaking at annual general meetings and to the press that they have not been merely sitting at their computers counting their sums. An increasing volume of work is being created by the

lobbies for change, and by the jealous eyes cast by government and other groups on that £90,000m. There is also the public debate on the problem of the present lack of manoeuvrability of an employee's pension fund should he leave a company or become redundant.

Mr James says the association plans to build up a research group to cope with the many calls made on it, but this will depend on resources. At the moment much of the burden of research is carried by the larger members.

The purpose of this conference, in Mr James' eyes, is to ensure that the association is actively pursuing the aims of its members. "I think it is very important that we keep in touch with our members. I believe that one of the important changes I have made is to turn the conference into a major policy making occasion than just a jolly," he said. But the conference can also help the industry's public image. The difficulties caused by the present rigidities can make the public forget that the association has lobbied for change in favour of the employee—such as the linking of pensions with salary-thinking of it instead as a group of Scrooges who do not want to part with money.

The point that Mr James would most like to come over from the four-day conference is that "the industry's main responsibility is to the welfare of the individual pensioner."

Sally White



Henry James, director-general, National Association of Pension Funds

EARLY LEAVERS

The dream that fades when you change jobs

The threat posed to occupational pension funds by any move to give individual employees freedom of choice may spur the industry to do something about the problem of early leavers. Their plight was highlighted in the Occupational Pension Board's report in June 1981, after prolonged criticism, but little has been done.

The prospect of retiring on two thirds of final salary is an impossible dream for most employees. If you change jobs you lose in two ways. You may have no option than to accept a deferred pension from your old employer, based on your salary when leaving. Few schemes ever update this benefit, and by the time you get it inflation will probably have reduced its real value to laughable proportions.

You may have the option of transferring the pension from the first to the new employer and taking a lump sum into the new job. That will buy you some years' benefit in the new scheme.

But not all pension funds allow you to take money with you. And even if you can transfer you still lose. The two sets of actuaries calculate the transfer payment by a method which means that 10 years of contributions to employer A may entitle you to only five, three or even one year of contributions with employer B. Early leavers find that very hard, and no wonder.

The Government cannot afford to overlook the economic consequences. A highly paid and experienced executive, for instance, is bound to think twice about changing jobs in middle age when his pension prospects will be severely damaged. That will not encourage the job mobility the Government desires.

In pension funds the best returns are for those who stay in the same job all their lives; not one would have thought the employee nearest Mrs Thatcher's heart. But despite the OPB report, which recommended a maximum 5 per cent uplift to frozen pensions each year, and some threatening noises from the Government, nothing has been done.

The National Association of Pension Funds, though worried about the cost of all this, recommends its members to make some increases in deferred pensions. It has also been

worried about other claims on the pension purse—the cost of equalizing the retirement age and guaranteeing uprating of pension payments.

The association's softer line on early leavers clearly depends on these other issues being solved first. Deferred pensions and transfer value calculations could possibly form part of forthcoming legislation.

An interesting role might be played by the new low-cost advice and arbitration service for pension fund members—a sort of pensions Ombudsman—which is being eagerly canvassed.

Pension contributions form an increasing part of people's savings, but recent surveys have indicated amazing apathy from employees parting with their money. Faced with a choice between a deferred pension and a transfer, most employees, unless they are wealthy enough to hire a private consultant, would not know what to do.

The unions are becoming better informed, and several companies have a helpful attitude, but no single, authoritative, cheap, convenient source of informed and unbiased advice exists for the man in the street.

For many years the pension funds have held all the cards. The individual had to take what he was offered, unless he was exceptionally lucky. But competition could well change things.

We may still have a long way to go before individual employees can decide against an occupational pension scheme in favour of a do-it-yourself plan, but several insurance companies have been quick to spot the market for job leavers. Employees whose pension funds allow them to transfer now have a third option—to transfer the money not to an employer but to an insurance company which uses the accumulated lump sum to purchase a pension for the employee on retirement.

London & Manchester Assurance led the way in November 1981 with its Transplan. This has been followed by a number of others. These do not by themselves get rid of the problem of low-transfer values, but they do offer a better alternative if you expect to change jobs several times.

MD

Employees' annual contributions

	Staff Schemes	Works Schemes	Combined Schemes	All Schemes
Average annual contribution based on eligible earnings of:				
£4,000	£170.74	£132.25	£165.44	£182.81
	% 4.27	% 3.31	% 4.14	% 4.07
£6,000	£267.55	£207.90	£261.52	£258.32
	% 4.46	% 3.47	% 4.36	% 4.27
£10,000	£461.02	£362.24	£455.22	£444.43
	% 4.61	% 3.62	% 4.55	% 4.44
£14,000	£659.51	£513.70	£656.04	£637.51
	% 4.71	% 3.67	% 4.69	% 4.55
Overall average contribution rate	% 4.51	% 3.52	% 4.44	% 4.33

Employers' annual contribution if contributory scheme

	Staff Schemes	Works Schemes	Combined Schemes	All Schemes
Average annual contribution based on eligible earnings of:				
£4,000	£505.39	£274.88	£403.82	£424.23
	% 12.63	% 6.87	% 10.09	% 10.61
£6,000	£780.83	£462.07	£630.59	£656.43
	% 12.68	% 7.70	% 10.51	% 10.94
£10,000	£1,311.12	£729.22	£1,081.88	£1,119.44
	% 13.11	% 7.29	% 10.82	% 11.19
£14,000	£1,842.22	£1,041.71	£1,565.14	£1,597.08
	% 13.16	% 7.44	% 11.18	% 11.41
Overall average contribution rate	% 12.90	% 7.33	% 10.85	% 11.04

Source: NAPF Survey, 1982

Pensions for the 21st Century.

It took Norwich Union, with their understanding of people and their needs, to create a whole new generation of individual pension policies.

Here they are: pensions for the managing director and his key employees plus everyone who is self-employed; professional man, actor or builder. All the pensions are designed to pay off handsomely in the 21st century or even before. Norwich Union's investment performance is legendary.

If you're looking for a pension, why look further?

FOR CHAIRMEN, DIRECTORS AND KEY EMPLOYEES

New: **Individual Pension Plan**. Modern version of what used to be called a top hat scheme. A company can reward valuable members of its staff with a cash fund to buy benefits on retirement.

These can include all senior people provided they are not self-employed, and the Plan is highly tax-effective.

New: **Unit-linked Individual Pension Plan**. A unit-linked version of the former which, like it, can be entered into any time during the individual's employment, even only a

few years from retirement. Obviously, the longer it runs, the more the recipient will benefit from Norwich Union's investment skill.

FOR THE SELF-EMPLOYED

New: **Personal Pension Plan**. An up-dated personal pension plan which allows the recipient to take, on retirement, income and a tax-free cash sum.

The total fund can be used to buy a pension from any company.

New: Unit-linked Personal

Pension Plan. A highly flexible unit-linked policy also specially suitable for the self-employed and those without a company pension.

Premiums can fluctuate with earnings and even stop altogether. With all unit-linked policies investments can go down as well as up, but Norwich Union's performance record is your reassurance.

Both these plans allow policy holders generous tax-relief.

FOR SELECTED EMPLOYEES

Coming Later: **Controlled Cost Pension Plan**. This may be offered

to selected groups within a company, say skilled workers.

It is intended to supplement the state earnings-related pension by building up a fund to provide cash or pension.

The company has total control over the level of payments.

LOAN BACK

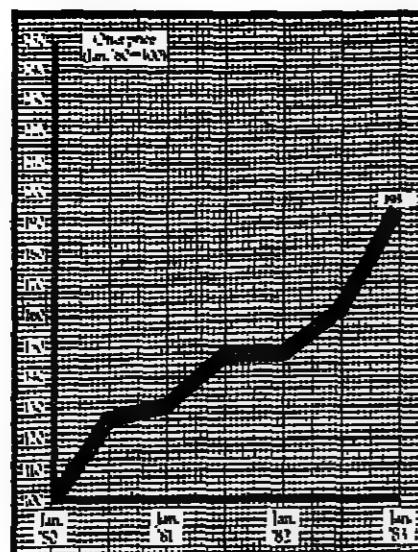
All the above policies excepting the Controlled Cost Pension Plan can be used for loan facilities.

With such a wide choice of policies you'll need the professional advice of a broker, accountant, financial adviser or Norwich Union Branch.

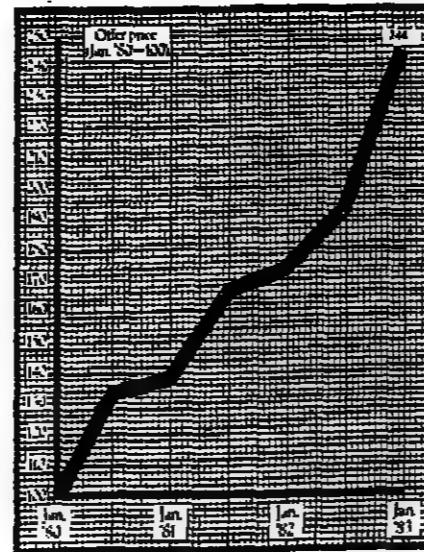
Or perhaps you'd like further details first. Write to the Production Manager (Life) at Norwich Union, Surrey Street, Norwich, NR1 3NG.



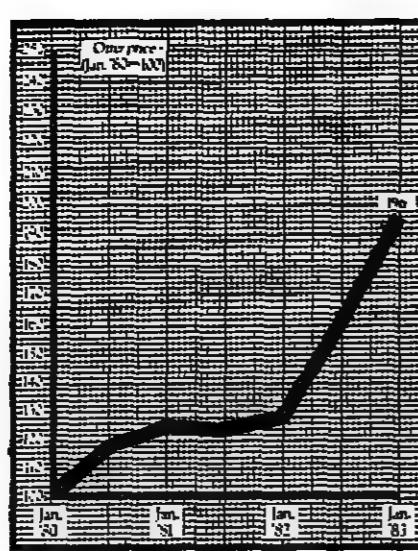
NORWICH PENSIONS



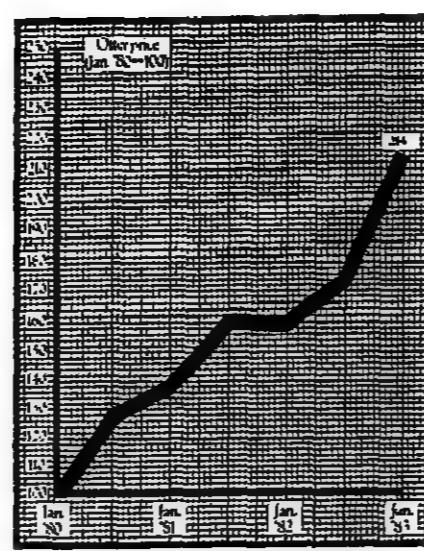
GRE Master Fund



GRE Equity Portfolio



GRE Fixed Interest Portfolio



GRE Mixed Portfolio

If the pensions management you recommend isn't doing as well as this then why are you recommending it?

GRE Pensions Management's Master Fund has been running for 11 years.

Performance continues to be outstanding for a broad-based pension fund.

But to give a wider investment choice we also manage six specialised funds.

They are Mixed, Equity, Fixed Interest, Deposit, International and Property.

All were launched just over three years ago, and their performance speaks for itself.

In the three years to January 1983 our Equity fund rose by 144%, compared to 103% for the FT Actuaries All Share Index.

Our Fixed Interest fund rose by 96%, compared to 80% for the FT Actuaries Over 15 year Gilt Index.

And our Mixed Fund was up by 114%.

To put these figures in their true perspective, over the same period average earnings rose by 44.2% and retail prices by 37.2%. Which in turn puts our pensions funds very comfortably ahead of both average incomes and inflation.

And that, after all, is what good investment management is all about.

For full details about our pensions management services contact any GRE branch office, or Ted Gascoigne

at GRE Field Operations on 01-283 7101.



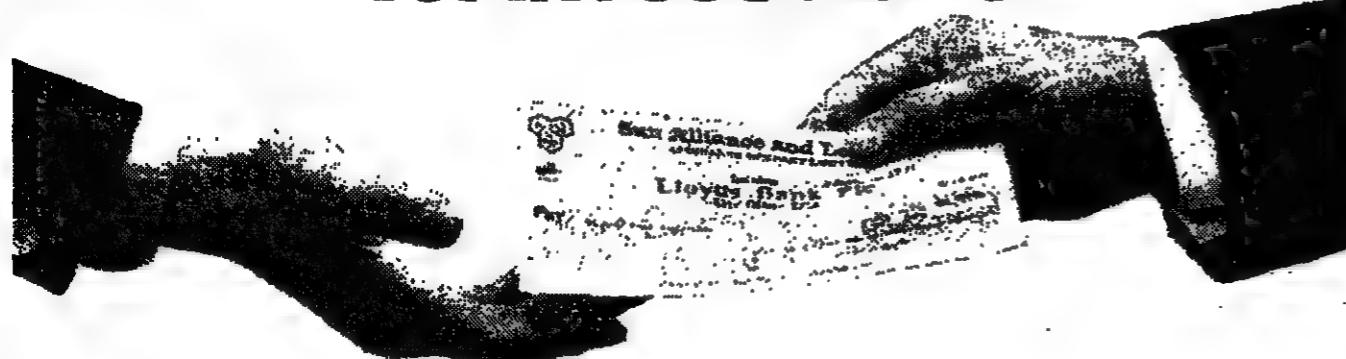
Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance

PENSIONS MANAGEMENT

Here's the top hat pension that can reduce corporation tax...



...and provide immediate cash for investment.



Up until now you have probably looked upon top hat pension schemes as something of a luxury.

Sun Alliance Executive Benefit Plan will change that.

It's a plan that can reduce corporation tax bills, as well as providing cash for business purposes.

At the same time it will give your company's directors and top executives a valuable and secure retirement pension package.

The plan simply works like this:

Premiums paid into Executive Benefit Plan may, using the Loan Option, qualify a company for an immediate loan with no security other than the policy being given.

And of course, premiums can be set against corporation tax - which means that

each investment is made at a discount of at least 40%.

Find out more about Sun Alliance Executive Benefit Plan by contacting your nearest Sun Alliance branch or by returning the coupon below.



SUN ALLIANCE
INSURANCE GROUP

To: M. J. Hall, Pensions Manager, Sun Alliance Insurance Group, FREEPOST HORSHAM, W. SUSSEX RH12 1ZA.
Please send further details of Executive Benefit Plan to:

Name _____

Position in Company _____

Address _____

Name of Insurance Adviser _____

The fund managers who control the assets of Britain's 90,000 or more occupational schemes have never been in such a powerful position to influence the economy. The value of pension fund assets is estimated at more than £70,000 today against £10,000 a decade ago. Each year the assets of the funds are swollen in two ways: an influx of nearly £7,000m of pension contributions from employers and employees and the return which fund managers achieve on their assets.

In 1982 the fund managers were justly pleased with their performance. The return on UK equities as measured by the FT Actuaries All-Share Index was more than 28 per cent, while the return on long-dated gilt edged securities reached 50 per cent. The average return on assets invested overseas was also estimated to be in the region of 30 per cent, leaving investment in property as the only major class of business which produced a return below the prevailing rate of inflation.

However, despite this apparent success in handling their clients' funds the fund managers have come under increasing pressure to reduce their overseas investments and channel money principally into British industry. Even under a Conservative administration the managers have been taken to one side and urged to use some of the financial muscle at their command to help reconstruct the battered balance sheet of Britain's hard pressed manufacturing companies.

With the prospect of an election in sight fund managers are also casting a nervous eye in the direction of the Labour Party leadership, which plans to use institutional funds as the centre plank of its policy to rejuvenate British industry.

Traditionally the pension funds have maintained a consistent balance between investments in four key areas: property, UK equities, UK fixed interest securities, and overseas equities.

In 1982 this meant that about 43 per cent of assets were invested in UK equities, 20 per cent in fixed interest securities, with the balance divided between property and overseas investments.

The one major change in emphasis during this period has been an increasing amount of investment in overseas equities

which was brought about by the relaxation of exchange controls in 1979. The threat of a Labour election victory and the reintroduction of exchange controls has increased the amount of interest taken in overseas investments recently as fund managers channel money out of the UK which they fear might be locked into the home economy if Labour wins power.

However the main threat stems from the joint TUC/Labour Party initiative to redirect some of the huge assets of the pension funds towards projects aimed at fostering investment in industry and increasing employment. The TUC/Labour Party liaison committee produced a document which developed the idea further with the proposal that pension fund assets should be directed

towards investment priorities previously detailed by a new Department of Economic and Industrial Planning.

However TUC criticism of the pension fund movement goes much further and attacks the poor standards of accountability in the movement, while blaming the funds for many of the problems caused by the lack of investment in British industry.

Although the debate will remain largely academic while the Conservatives are in power there are signs that the pension fund movement is taking note of shifting opinion about its role in economic and City life. The most dramatic example of this has been seen at the National Coal Board Pension Fund.

Since Mr Arthur Scargill succeeded Mr Joe Gormley

as president of the National Union of Mineworkers, the union leadership has taken a much more active role in influencing the actions of the pension fund managers. In his first year as trustee of the fund Mr Scargill refused to accept its business plan. In particular he refused to allow the fund to go ahead with proposed investments in overseas securities and property.

Questions were also raised about investments in activities such as the oil industry, which competed with coal production.

The changing mood has also led to occasional arm twisting by the Bank of England in an attempt to arrange finance for manufacturing companies in trouble.

As a consequence, fund managers were involved in arranging a capital reconstruction which allowed Johnson & Firth Brown, the Sheffield engineering group, to become involved in setting up Sheffield Forgemasters, a joint venture company with the British Steel Corporation. The institutions were involved again when Sir Francis Tombi was appointed chairman of Turner & Newall, the troubled asbestos group, last year.

The fund managers have also demonstrated their sense of social responsibility by urging directors of Marks & Spencer to give details of cheap housing rental arranged for executives.

Institutional pressure was also brought to bear when Associated Communications Corporation and Carrington Viyella, the textiles company, looked set to pay record golden handshakes to outgoing chief executives.

Previously fund managers have argued that they lacked the knowledge of industry necessary to involve themselves more closely with day-to-day decisions.

Managers have also argued that their primary duty is to achieve the highest possible return on the asset which they control on behalf of fund members.

If the pressure to change the emphasis of their investment and to become more involved in the running of companies continues, then the result will almost certainly be a demand from managers for a change in the rules which govern their activities.

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Investment and Finance
City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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 London WC1X 8EZ
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STOCK EXCHANGES
FT Index 589.8 down 2.3
FT Gilt 82.00 up 0.27
FT All Shares 433.22 down 3.53
Bargain 24.183
Tring Hall USM Index 171.6 up 0.4
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index 8663.13 down 41.26
Hongkong Hang Seng Index 986.64 down 16.51
New York Dow Jones Average 1213.33 up 5.32

CURRENCIES
LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5805 up 20 pts
Index 85.1 up 0.1
DM 3.87 down 0.01
Fr 11.57/57 down 0.01
Yen 373.50 down 1.50
Dollar
 Index 122.2 down 0.4
 DM 2.4460 down 115 pts
Gold
 \$432.25 down \$1
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$432.75
Sterling \$1.5880

INTEREST RATES
Domestic rates:
 Base rates 10
 3 month interbank 10% up 10%
Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar 8% up 8%
 3 month DM 5% up 5%
 3 month Fr 16% up 15%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV
 Average reference rate for interest period April 6 to May 3, inclusive: 10.304 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES
Solicitors' Law 32 up 5p
H Ingram 32 up 5p
Western Highe £37.9375 up £3.4375
Grootevei £12.06 up £1.06
Rotaflex 58p up 4p
Gencor £17.5875 up £1.1875
Sotheby 455p down 50p
Unilever 750p down 15p
Massey-F 310p down 15p
Marks & S 203p down 15p
Harrison Cross 600p down 12p
Cable & W 373p down 12p

TODAY
Interim Anglo Scottish Inv:
 Barton Transport, T Cowie,
 North Midland Construction,
 Royal Bank of Scotland.
Finals: Advance Services,
 Garter Booth.

Japanese top steel production

Nippon Steel last year continued as the top steel producer at 28.3 million tons against a previous 29.6 million tons, in the list issued by the International Iron and Steel Institute in Brussels.

It was well above Italian Finisider which produced 13.3 million tons against 13.9 million, Nippon Kokan 12 million tons against 12.6 million and British Steel 11.4 million tons against 13.3 million.

OVERSUBSCRIBED: Applications for shares in the advertising agency, Boase Massini Pollitt, have been oversubscribed. The group whose clients include Courage and Reckitt & Colman, offered 1.5 million shares, 29 per cent of equity, by way of a tender at a minimum price of 280p.

APOLOGY: The Midland Bank yesterday apologised for an administrative error which implied that a £16m business with 700 workers was in the hands of the receiver. The company, Garrod and Loft, printers, of Crawley, issued a statement "to refute widespread rumours" that it had gone into receivership.

MARKS PROFIT: Marks and Spencer, the high street retailing group, yesterday announced an 8 per cent increase in pre-tax profits for the year to the end of March from £272.1m to £239.3m. Sales rose by 14 per cent to £2,505.5m. Page 16

MORE FAILURES: Trade Indemnity, the credit insurance company, reports that business failures notified by its policyholders to April 1, 1983, rose by 10 per cent compared with April 1982, to 322. In the first four months of 1983, total failures showed an increase of 24 per cent on same period of 1982. With the exception of furniture and upholstery, all sectors recorded a higher number of failures.

ZANUSSI TALKS: NV Philips Lamps began talks last week with the financially troubled Zanussi electrical company at the request of the Italian Government, a Philips spokesman said. He said other companies including Thomson Brandt were also involved. Discussions were still at an early stage and there had been no developments so far.

Interest hopes boost Wall St
By Sandy McLachlan

Thomas Tilling is forecasting a 113 per cent increase in pretax profits for the present year as one of the main planks in its defence against the £600m takeover bid from BTR. That is almost £14m more than it has ever made before, £21.1m in 1979. Last year, profits were depressed 44.3m.

Tilling, whose managing director is Sir Patrick Meany, is also forecasting record earnings per share, up 149 per cent to 22.4p, and a 15 per cent dividend increase to 10p a share. These are the main points in a defence which uses most tactics in the merchant banking locker, and some that are new.

Mr F Black, Tilling's finance director, said night: "We are in a boom year. We don't think we are alone in this." The defence document itself said: "BTR's bid is an opportunist attempt to acquire Tilling on the cheap."

On the basis of its forecasts, Tilling dismisses the BTR offer on the grounds that it "completely undervalues" Tilling shares. It claims that acceptance would result in inadequate

f600m bid 'an opportunist attempt to buy company on the cheap'

Tilling predicts 113pc profits rise in aggressive defence against BTR

THOMAS TILLING PRETAX PROFIT RECORD

	£m	£m	
1973	34.4	1979	81.1
1974	29.1	1980	70.7
1975	33.6	1981	78.8
1976	41.5	1982	48.7
1977	53.9	1983*	25.0
1978	64.9	Forecast	

capital value, substantial loss of income, dilution of attributable earnings and dilution of asset-backing.

In an attack on BTR that is bound to provoke a sharp dismissal, Tilling claims that over the last four years BTR's sales and profits growth "have actually declined in real terms, despite several acquisitions."

Tilling, advised by merchant bankers S. G. Warburg, totally rejects that there is a reasonably close fit between BTR's businesses and "those which we have been running and developing in the Tilling Group for many years."

It is expected that a decision will be taken today by Lord Cockfield, Secretary of State for Trade, as to whether to refer the

proposed acquisition of Serck by BTR: "A point may be reached at which the rapid expansion of BTR will, if it is continued, become incompatible with effective control and efficient use of increased resources; but we do not think this point has been reached with the acquisition of Serck."

Tilling points out that should BTR's bid succeed, "it would overnight create the biggest conglomerate complex in this country." Thus, the point referred to by the Commission "would surely have been far exceeding."

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Meany: Tilling undervalued

BTR/Tilling bid to the Commission.

Another attack by Tilling concerns employees' interests. It claims that it has "consistently given a high priority to the maintenance and improvement of efficiency."

Few sets of employees are more enthusiastic than those at National Freight.

But even a casual glance at the list so far shows that the privatization process has yet to strike at the heartland of the public sector.

As evidence of the recovery, it plots leading indicators of both the British and US economies drawn from official figures, and showing a marked

revival.

Investors' notebook, page 16

ANNUAL REPORT: Sir Anthony Rampton, chairman of Freightways, the mail order company, says in his annual report that much has been done during the past six months to improve profitability.

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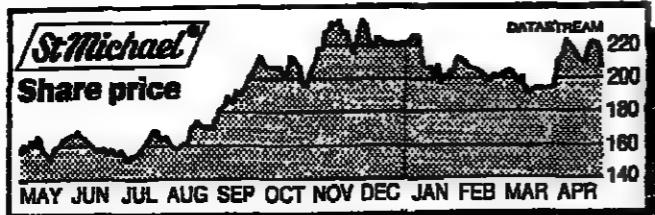
ANNUAL REPORT: Sir Anthony Rampton, chairman of Freightways, the mail order company, says in his annual report that much has been done during the past six months to improve profitability.

Few sets of employees are more enthusiastic than those at National Freight.

But even a casual glance at the list so far shows that the privatization process has yet to strike at the heartland of the public sector.

M & S growth fails to buoy shares

Marks and Spencer
Year to 31.3.83.
Pretax profit, £239.3m (£222.1m).
Stated earnings, 10.3p (9.2p).
Turnover, £2,505.5m (£2,198.7m).
Net dividend, 3.25p making 5.1p
(4.6p).
Share price 203p down 13p. Yield
3.4%.



If the market appeared to be disappointed with the yearly profit figures of Marks and Spencers, doyen of British retailing, it was because a hoped-for scrip issue failed to materialize. It was this, not the figures that caused the shares to drop 13p. Pretax profits - up nearly 8 per cent at £239.3m were in the middle of forecasts.

Add to that claims by Marks and Spencer that the extra week of trading in the comparable period, which was for 53 weeks rather than this time's 52 weeks, was worth £10m on profits, and the underlying increase in returns of nearly 13 per cent looks healthy.

A reduced funding requirement for pensions boosted profits by £1.5m and a weak pound made returns from the Continent and Canada look better than they did in local currency.

The company has reduced pension funding from 15.5 per cent of wages to 14 per cent as a result of an actual valuation which revealed a substantial surplus in the fund. This surplus has been shared between the company, which has reduced its contribution, and employees who will receive better terms as a result.

Marks is holding firm to its policy of giving employees a share in the company's prosperity. The wage bill last year rose by 18 per cent, only 6 per

cent of which was attributable to the increase in staff. Employees were given a 9 per cent pay rise last year.

The group no doubt expects higher volume sales this year to compensate for the increase in the cost base.

Its own rate of retail price inflation is 0.5 per cent below official national averages.

Volume sales rose by 11 per cent in the second half, compared with 10 per cent in the first.

While remaining vulnerable to any general downturn in share prices, Marks and Spencer shares continue to represent solid value.

Thomas Tilling

In spite of the fact that the Thomas Tilling camp still thinks it has more cards up its sleeve, the rejection document against BTR's bid seems to be a once and for all broadside. Even

S. G. Warburgs surely cannot come up with much more than superb profit and earnings forecasts, dismissal of industrial logic, comprehensive knocking of BTR, an almost impossible play to Lord Cockfield to make a

reference to the Monopolies Commission, and employee interests.

True, Tilling has not revalued its assets, but if that is one of

transfer to secret reserves which were wiped out the previous year, when it disclosed a £2.75m loss.

By contrast, Gerard & National, one of the sector leaders along with Union Discount, has turned in a bright performance with profits more than trebled from £4.31m to £14.2m.

Shareholders are receiving a 27 per cent rise in dividends and one-for-one scrip issue is also proposed. The year-end

Smith St Aubyn
Year to 5.4.83.
After tax profit £1.42m (£2.75m loss).
Net final dividend 2p, making 3.5p (4.5p).
Share price 45p, down 3p. Yield 11.1%
Dividend payable 16.6.83

Gerrard & National
Year to 5.4.83.
After tax profit £14.2m (£4.31m).
Net final dividend 14p, making 20p (15.75p).
Share price 382p, down 2p. Yield 7.3%
Dividend payable June 1983

balance sheet shows 50 per cent rise to £2.35m and disclosed shareholders' funds are up from £3.2m to £4.5m.

Meanwhile, Smith St Aubyn's balance sheet is up a more modest 15 per cent to £4.20m and disclosed shareholders' funds ahead from £8.6m to £9.1m. However, the final dividend, omitted at the previous year-end, has been partially restored.

The fact that the market was not particularly impressed by either set of results is an indication of how analysts in this specialist sector are getting their sums right this time round at least.

Discount houses

Size has become increasingly important in the discount market over recent years and yesterday's results from Gerrard & National and Smith St Aubyn illustrate why.

Smith St Aubyn, one of the smaller houses which had a calamitous year in the gilts market in 1981-82, has turned in a creditable performance. It has reported disclosed profits of £1.42m struck after a hefty

balance sheet shows 50 per cent rise to £2.35m and disclosed shareholders' funds are up from £3.2m to £4.5m.

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International Income Property

Investors are being invited to take their chance in the boom and bust US real estate market by an Australian property development subsidiary run by an expatriate Dutchman Mr Gerard Dusseldorf through a 2m share offering of International Income Property Inc. Half the shares will be placed with institutions and the remainder offered for sale at 587p per share.

IIP is a spin-off from Lead Lease, the Australian-based property development group

The 8.6 per cent yield should prove attractive to private investors in standard United Kingdom property shares yield an average 4 to 5 per cent. Under the present laws both here and in the US, income is taxed at 15 per cent in the US and a further 15 per cent is levied on the net amount in Britain. There are also capital gains advantages.

P&O, Britain's largest shipping company, which yesterday reported 18 per cent decline in pretax profits to £33.5m for 1982, has started 1983 on an equally gloomy note. Mr Oliver Brooks, managing director, said that the group's cruise, liquefied gas containers and the ferries had all started the year badly. Shareholders will have to wait for the second half for any signs of improvement from the traditionally stronger summer season for cruises and ferries and also the Boris construction business. But the market expected as much and the shares fell just 1p to 149p.

LIME TURNOVER

London Lime Standard cylinder 250kg

Henderson rises 61 pc

By Andrew Cornelius

P. C. Henderson, Britain's largest manufacturer of industrial and garage doors, impressed the City yesterday with 1982 results which showed a 61 per cent increase in both pretax profits and turnover.

Strong trading at the group's industrial and domestic garage door business, coupled with increased profits in South Africa and New Zealand, meant that pretax profits rose to £3.9m against £2.4m the previous year, on a turnover of £50m compared with £31m.

The board is recommending an increased final dividend of

8p net, making 12p for the year against 10p last year to help boost City enthusiasm for Henderson shares which rose by 44p to 498p.

Tight control of stocks and working capital by the company's strong central management team also helped contribute towards a positive cash flow of £2.5m during the year. This was achieved despite funding part of the acquisition of the Normand Electrical business and CIC security

against £2.4m the previous year, on a turnover of £50m compared with £31m.

The board is recommending an increased final dividend of

Gerrard & National PLC

Results for the year ended 5th April 1983

	1983	1982
Profit for the year	£14,205m	£4,311m
Total cost of Dividends	£2,982m	£2,356m
Disclosed Shareholders' Funds	£45,347m	£32,134m
Total Assets	£2,349,012m	£1,564,578m

* Group Profit for the Year. Group profit after providing for taxation, minority interests and a transfer to Inner Reserves amounted to £14,205,000 (1982 £4,311,000).

* Dividend. It is proposed that a final dividend of 14p (1982 10.75p) be paid on each Ordinary Share of 25p. When added to the Interim Dividend already paid of 6p (1982 5p) this makes a total of 20p (1982 15.75p) an increase of 27%. The proposed dividend on the Ordinary Shares of 25p each will be paid to Shareholders on the register at the close of business on the 20th May 1983.

* Scrip Issue. It is proposed that a scrip issue be made on the basis of one Ordinary Share for each Ordinary Share held. The scrip issue will be capitalised from the whole of the amounts standing to the credit of the capital redemption reserve fund and the share premium account and £1,765,548 from the general reserve to which £2,000,000 has been credited from inner reserves for the specific purpose of this capitalisation.

* Disclosed Shareholders' Funds. The Group's Disclosed Shareholders' Funds stand at £45.35 million compared with £32.13 million last year.

* Total Assets. The Total Assets of the Group (excluding bills subject to repurchase arrangements) amount to £2,349.01 million compared with £1,564.6 million in 1982.

32 Lombard Street, London EC3V 9BE. Tel: 01-823 9981
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W German jobless total falls

Bonn (Reuter) - Government optimism that an economic recovery is under way in West Germany was boosted yesterday by official figures showing a sharp fall in unemployment last month and improved new industrial orders.

Unemployment dropped by 133,000 to 2.25 million - 9.2 per cent of the workforce - in April, the Federal Labour Office reported.

The figures were announced as Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who campaigned in March's General Election under the slogan "Vote for the upturn", told Parliament: "The upturn has started."

Herzog Stigl, Labour Office president, said that after seasonal adjustments the underlying trend in the jobless figures was still moving upwards but more slowly than in the previous month.

West German industry's new orders in March rose by one per cent over the previous month, domestic demand leading the way with a two per cent growth rate, the economics ministry said.

Industry feared the scheme would make companies place orders ahead of schedule to qualify for the bonus, after which demand would drop off sharply.

The economics ministry also reported that industrial production in March remained steady.

Drugstore chain stocks tipped for the top

New York (NYT) - While investors ponder a possible correction in stock prices, the Value Line investment survey has singled out a rather mundane-sounding group that has fared superbly and is considered likely to continue its winning ways: the chain drugstore group.

In recent months, chain drugstore issues have been market favourites and some of them sold at record prices.

Despite the price rises, analysts

said the drugstore stocks would continue moving higher during the months ahead, bolstered by higher earnings.

Investors looking for drugstore equities to outperform the market average can choose from top-rated Adams Drug, Peoples Drug and Thrift Corporation. All the other chains, except Jack Eckerd, are ranked above average for year-ahead performance.

The Crown Agents is handing £15m of work for the Falkland Islands, one of its oldest clients, to help towards repairing war damage and reconstruction.

Originally set up to act as purchasing agent in this country for Britain's old colonies, the Crown Agents have handled more than 200 orders worth £7.23m for prefabricated equipment in the Falklands and is also working on a £5.5m contract to repair roads in the islands.

Sir Sidney Eburne, senior Crown Agent, said yesterday that the Agents would also be carrying out studies on the power and water systems.

The annual report of the Crown Agents, published yesterday, shows a drop in the surplus before interest and tax from £2.28m in 1981 to £1.24m last year. After paying £1.28m interest on loan capital to the

Traditionally, much of its work has been related to United Kingdom aid or has been funded by governments or public bodies in the developing countries, for whom the Crown Agents provide technical advice.

and training and act as a procurement agent.

With a larger proportion of Britain's overseas aid being channelled through multilateral agencies and with developing countries increasingly short of cash, the Crown Agents have directed attention to marketing their services and administering programmes for multilateral agencies.

About 70 per cent of the orders placed by the Crown Agents still go to companies in Britain. However, of last year's total procurement of £140m, about £52m was related to United Kingdom aid, about £50m was funded directly by customers and the rest related to assistance from multilateral agencies such as the World Bank and other bodies.

The reorganization of the Crown Agents over the past three years has led to a big reduction in staff from 2,200 to about 1,300.

SKF

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Aktiebolaget SKF will be held at SKF Kristinehamn, Byfogdegatan 2, Göteborg, Sweden, at 3.30 p.m. on Monday 30 May, 1983.

Agenda

Ordinary general meeting business will be transacted in accordance with Swedish law and Articles of Association.

A proposal put by one of the shareholders for a change in the Articles is also on the Agenda. This involves equal voting rights for all AB SKF shares and the formation of an election committee to put forward candidate names for the Company's Board of Directors and Auditors.

Right to attend

For the right to participate in the meeting, shareholders must notify the Board, at the Company's address in Göteborg, before noon on Wednesday 25 May, preferably in writing, of their intention to attend, giving details of name, address, telephone and shareholding. They must also be recorded in the shareholder register kept by the Securities Register Centre (VPC AB, Box 7444, S-10391 Stockholm) by Friday 20 May.

Shareholders with holdings registered in banks or other authorized depositaries must temporarily re-register these in their own name by Friday 20 May to be able to participate in the Annual General Meeting.

Payment of dividends

The Board will recommend that shareholders with holdings in the VPC AB records on 2 June be entitled to receive dividends for 1982. Subject to this date being accepted by the Annual General Meeting, it is expected that the Securities Register Centre will send out notice of payment to recorded shareholders and listed depositaries on 9 June.

Proxy forms are available from A/B SKF S-415 50 Göteborg, Sweden. Tel: (31) 372755 & 371000.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 %
Barclays	10 %
BCCI	10 %
Consolidated Crds	10 %
C. House & Co	*10 %
Lloyds Bank	10 %
Midland Bank	10 %
Nat Westminster	10 %
TSB	10 %
Williams & Glyn's	10 %

* 7 day deposit rate of member bank. * 10% of £10,000 up to £100,000. * 10% of £100,000 and over.

Sun Life:

outlook good, prospects bright



From the Statement by the Chairman, Mr Peter Grant.

Total funds exceed £2bn.

In a remarkable year of growth, despite recession, the Sun Life Group again attained new records...

...whilst our total funds reached £bn, in 1978, 168 years after we commenced business as a life office, just four years later this figure has more than doubled to £2.2 billion... our total new premium income was above last year's performance at £110 million.

Importance of Commission Agreement

...we remain convinced that a widely supported Commissions Agreement is necessary for the health of our industry.

Substantially increased bonuses... lower rates of interest resulted in

exceptional capital appreciation in our investment portfolio. This enabled us to increase substantially the rates of terminal bonus... and to pay a specially increased cash bonus on our with profits group pension business.

Dividend up 21.8%

...a total of 13.4p per share... represents a 21.8% increase over the 1981 dividend...

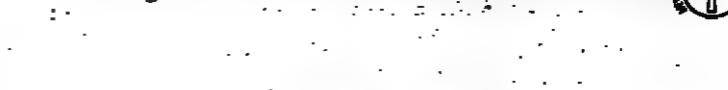
Prosperous future

...whatever the problems the future brings, I am confident that the Group has the skills and the resources to cope and prosper.



For a copy of the 1982 Report & Accounts of one of the country's most successful life offices, contact W.J. Amos, Sun Life Assurance Society plc, 107 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DU. 01-606 7788.

A major force in British Life



Gerrard & National PLC

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It does not constitute an invitation to the public to subscribe for or purchase any shares.

American General Corporation

(Incorporated with limited liability in the State of Texas in the United States of America)

Authorised
300,000,000

Common Shares of U.S. \$0.50 par value

* including 37,439,694 shares reserved for issue

131,658,909

Issued and reserved
for issue at
4th May, 1983

American General Corporation is a financial services company whose principal businesses are life and property-liability insurance. The company also offers consumer finance, real estate management and mortgage banking services. American General Corporation's subsidiary in the United Kingdom is

Albany Life Assurance Company Limited.

The Council of The Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official List all the 131,658,909 Common Shares of American General Corporation issued and reserved for issue.

Particulars relating to American General Corporation are available in the Extel Statistical Service and copies of such particulars may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 27th May, 1983 from:

Credit Suisse First Boston Limited
22 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4BQ

S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.
30 Gresham Street, London EC2P 2EB

Rowe & Pitman
City-Gate House,
39-45 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1JA

5

FOOTBALL

Opinion of clubs divided over revised TV offer

By Stuart Jones

Football Correspondent

The Caf Royal is setting for the next, but possibly not the final, episode in the dispute over televising football. The club chairman will today discuss a revised offer and it would not be surprising if the meeting ends with a call for further negotiations. The central theme of the plot concerns advertisements, coverage and money.

The Football Association regulations permit shirt logos that measure 32 sq in, the television representations insist that size should be halved. The chairman, in return, wants to reduce the number of matches covered by the two channels each weekend to four, but they may allow some of them to be screened live.

Television are offering a sum of £5.4m over two years and another £1m to retain overseas rights. Once agreement has been reached, they would also recognize a sponsorship deal, estimated to be worth £3.2m over three years, that is expected to be signed by the Football League.

The television companies believe that with video contracts and additional ground advertising for the cameras, the deal is worth £12m to the game. Jonathan Martin, the BBC's head of sport, said: "This is a very large sum of money, especially when you consider the appeal of football on



Clay: "League's most important meeting ever"

television over the last few years has been diminishing."

Ernie Clay, as the chairman of a second division club, Fulham, holds one of the 53 votes. He feels the meeting is the most important since the League started, but fears the final decision will be far from unanimous. "The block vote is immoral and the need for a 75 per cent majority is disgusting", he said yesterday.

The third and fourth division clubs hold eight votes between them and can stand in the way of proposals that are not to their benefit. "It is about time the tail stopped wagging the dog", Clay added. "The smaller clubs must accept that they should help the bigger ones, who are beginning

to realize that they could break away on their own".

But even the most powerful representatives do not present a united front. For instance, the chairman of Tottenham Hotspur, Douglas Alexiou, favours live coverage but his counterparts at Arsenal, Pete Hill-Wood, and at Manchester United, Martin Edwards, would accept it only if their clubs receive adequate compensation for loss of gate receipts. Clay himself will vote against it and will also oppose the reduction of shirt advertisements.

He will vote for "canned" matches to be shown each weekend, and for the abolition of Saturday afternoon previews. But Jack Dunn, Notts County's chairman, says he will reject the whole offer. Faced by such a disparity of opinions, television must be relieved that at least their one competitor, Telejetor, has withdrawn from talks that promise to be lengthy, if not inconclusive.

For his part Martin insists that television will not compensate clubs for gate losses. "We are not in the business of underwriting football to that extent," he said. "Expecting us to compensate clubs for any loss of receipts they may feel they have suffered would be like asking us to act as an insurance policy for them." He urged the club representatives to consider it "an agreement in the best interests of both football and television."

Aberdeen have conceded defeat in the tightest Scottish premier division title race for years and turned their attentions towards next week's European Cup Winners' Cup final in Gothenburg. A goalless draw with Hibernian at Easter Road on Tuesday has left Aberdeen with only five points in the championship chase.

Alex Ferguson, the Aberdeen manager, watched his side struggle as the effects of a long, hard season began to take their toll and said: "The league's over for us. It's very disappointing but I just can't see our other challengers faltering now."

With two games remaining, Aberdeen have joint second with Celtic on 51 points, one behind Dundee United, and Ferguson now believes the title has come to begin preparations for next week's match with Real Madrid, who have just finished runners-up in the Spanish League to Athlete Bilbao.

Aberdeen face the bottom club, Kilmarnock, tonight in their last appearance before traveling to Sweden. Ferguson said: "The team now consists of nothing but which John McEnroe displayed when besting him in the World Championship Tennis (WCT) final in Dallas on Sunday.

The timing could not have been better for Burnley as they gained their first away win in eight months, by 2-1 at Shrewsbury on Tuesday, to give some credibility to their hopes of escaping relegation to the third division.

With games in hand over most of their rivals in distress, the Lancashire club could yet haul themselves to safety. Their last game at Crystal Palace on May 17 may be crucial to both clubs. Burnley secured victory at Gay Meadow with two goals in five minutes early in the second half from Paul and Donncha O'Shane, for whom it was the first of 11 consecutive games, replied with a header from Bates.

Added to explain further, he replied: "I think I am going to show you." He then hinted that every time he had a close call, he would not be prepared to let it go and that he, too, would be likely to intimidate the officials.

An attack like this is out of character for Lendl. At press conferences, he usually answers questions in monosyllables, but here he took everyone by surprise with the strength of his views.

In the past, their rivalry has been so intense that Lendl has been known to drop a few choice words at McEnroe. Answering a question about physical challenge on Tuesday, Lendl said: "I cannot hit him with my fist but I can hit him with the balls."

Lendl and McEnroe may meet in the final here on Sunday, but Lendl doubted that McEnroe would progress that far. This tournament is being played on clay, a surface which is not McEnroe's best. Lendl suggests McEnroe will not get past Guillermo Vilas, of Argentina, whom, if the draw goes according to plan, should meet in the semi-final Saturday.

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Podd, the Bradford

McBride's pride: shooting a cagey glance over a septet of man-eaters



Those unsmiling Irish eyes of McBride suggest that there could be a lion, if not a kiwi, in the path of MacNeill, Irwin, Campbell, Fitzgerald, Keirnan, O'Driscoll and Ringland

Lions and their handlers must pull together on safari

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The seventh team to represent Britain and Ireland in New Zealand - or the tenth, depending on whether you count the various teams who played there before the First World War - leave Gatwick today looking like a cardsharp swinging through the saloon doors and then stopping to think whether he has the required number of aces up his sleeve.

The omens are good in terms of experience for McBride and Telfer but British rugby desperately needs a successful Lions tour to help recover a sense of direction. All four home countries face problems of rebuilding. Wales are farthest along that road. England are in the throes of a painful process. Scotland are seldom free of it and Ireland, having walked a long road to two successive championships, must embark on it shortly. None of the four possess a genuinely identifiable style and rugby without style is a graceless object. The Lions can repair that omission.

There are thoughts that, to beat New Zealand, the Lions will have to revert to grinding forward power, the kind that took Pontycroft to their Welsh Cup win last week. Well, the 1977 Lions had grinding forward power and it took them to a series defeat. There has to be more to rugby than that and if it cannot be achieved on tour, it will be difficult to achieve it anywhere.

It must be recognized, however, that the Lion's 18-match itinerary is probably the hardest faced by a touring side in New Zealand. They will have to work not only at their game but to repair the image denied by their unscrupulous predecessors of 1977. New Zealanders look to South Africa for business, to the Lions for pleasure, and the pleasure derives not only from the rugby but also from the team's attitude off the field. It is a lot to ask of 30 young men, of whom only 10 have toured as Lions before; much must depend on the sense of discipline and commitment engendered by McBride and Telfer.

There is little doubt that Telfer will work his men hard. For the Harlequins are likely to feature in New Zealand's trial on Saturday: Andy Haden at lock, Jamie Salmon at centre and Nick Allen at stand-off. Allen

created a fine impression on a Saturday side and a Wednesday side. This could be the making of some players, such as Steve Boyle, the 29-year-old Gloucester lock. Input techniques being what it is in New Zealand, Boyle will find that disruption and ball-handling count for much; he will probably be fitter than ever before and could be an ace in the hole, particularly if Colclough takes time to find his form.

Iain Paxton first came to prominence on tour in New Zealand with Scotland and he is another I expect to do well. Of the young players, Peter Winterbottom and Robert Ackerman - both of whom summered in New Zealand last year - should come back mightily improved players. That having been said, much will depend on the half-backs, the only area of the party where there are players operating at world-class level.

If Terry Holmes and Ollie Campbell can retain form and fitness - and it is a big "if" - to ask them to maintain on tour the standards they have shown over the past season, week in and week out - they could make the critical difference in a close game. The Scottish pair of Roy Leidlow and John Rutherford will tread constantly on their heels and, captain, is the Aucklander player, Alwyn Harvey, a creative player as opposed to the more destructive Bruce Middleton, of Wanganui.

They will come up against a New Zealand side with a new coach, Bryce Rose, and including players who will see this summer as the climax of their career. There is no Graham Mourd, but one thing the All Blacks are seldom short of is good flankers; he will be more difficult to replace as captain, a job which could go to the hooker, Andy Dalton, or, conversely, the scrum half, David Loveridge, who led New Zealand in Australia in 1980. A third possibility, as replacement flanker and captain, is the Aucklander player, Alwyn Harvey, a creative player as opposed to the more destructive Bruce Middleton, of Wanganui.

Three men who have played for the Harlequins are likely to feature in New Zealand's trial on Saturday: Andy Haden at lock, Jamie Salmon at centre and Nick Allen at stand-off. Allen

has no predictions to make in public. He says he has no Englishmen, Scots or Welsh on tour (he inadvertently forgot to mention the Irish), he has only Lions. "There could be all sorts of problems but I expect that the quality of the players, their loyalty and pride in their own performance to be factors in overcoming any problems," he said. "We have an excellent team that could win the series."

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Party is over for Lenihan

Donal Lenihan, the Ireland lock who attended a reception given by the New Zealand High Commissioner in London on Tuesday evening proudly wearing his 1983 Lions blazer, has withdrawn from the tour, David Hands writes. He was discovered yesterday to have a hernia when the team assembled for a final medical check-up and has returned to Ireland.

Lenihan, aged 23, from Cork Constitution Club, was aware of a swelling before the injury was diagnosed. The injury is similar to that received by Peter Winterbottom, the England flanker, before the start of last season and which kept him out of rugby for three months.

"I hope this is not a bad omen for the rest of the tour," Bill McBride, the Lions manager, said. "It is any consolation for Donald that he is a young player who has a great future."

Lenihan first played for Ireland against Australia in 1981 and has won nine caps. Standing 6ft 5ins, he was one of the younger men who was expected to benefit immensely from a Lions tour. His injury maintains the run of misfortune which has attended the last two Lions parties when they assembled to go to New Zealand and South Africa respectively.

In 1977 Geoff Wheel, the Welsh lock, was advised to withdraw after selection with a heart murmur, although he subsequently continued his international career in the home championship. Before the same tour Roger Utley, the England back row forward, withdrew



Lenihan the Lion stays at home

because of a back injury. In 1980 it was the turn of Andy Irvine, the Scotland full back, to withdraw because of a hamstring injury.

There will be considerable sympathy for Lenihan not only from his erstwhile colleagues but throughout the rugby world. His withdrawal also added an air of caution to the training of the remaining Lions went through at the Honourable Artillery Company ground in London yesterday morning, a non-contact workout which lasted 70 minutes.

There can be no greater disappointment for a young rugby player than to reach the verge of a big tour when he has received his equipment and then be forced out by injury. Clive Woodward, the England centre who battled all last season against a shoulder injury, believes a tour to New Zealand to be the height of any British player's ambition, greater even than a visit to South Africa.

He, along with 28 other Lions, must have been happy to have survived yesterday's work-

out.

Players, officials and tour itinerary

FULL BACKS: W H Hare (Leicester and England, H P MacNeill (Blackpool, England, Oxford University and Ireland).
RIGHT WING: J Charles (Orell and Ireland), T M Whinney (Bathurst and Ireland).
LEFT WING: S R T Ebdon (Kings and Scotland), S Evans (Moseley and Wales).
CENTRES: R A Ackerman (London Welsh and Wales), D G Irwin (Nottingham and Ireland), M J Horner (Nottingham and Scotland), C R Woodward (Lancaster and England).
STAND-OFFS: S O Campbell (Old Believers and Ireland), J Y Rutherford (Selkirk and Scotland).
HALVES: T D Haines (Cardiff and Wales), R J Laidlow (Jed-Forest and Scotland).
FORWARDS: T Jones (Pontypool and Wales), I Stephens (Bridgend and Wales), I G Milne (Heriot's FP and Wales).
PHYSIOTHERAPIST: K Murphy (England).
ITINERARY:
 May 14 v Wellington (Whangarei)
 May 15 v Auckland (Auckland)
 May 21 v Bay of Plenty (Rotorua)
 May 25 v Wellington (Wellington)
 May 28 v Manawatu (Palmerston North)
 June 3 v Mid-Canterbury (Ashburton)
 June 4 v First International (Christchurch)
 June 6 v Canterbury (Christchurch)
 June 8 v Northland (Whangarei)
 June 11 v Southland (Invercargill)
 June 14 v Waikato Bush (Masterton)
 June 18 v Second International (Wellington)
TEAMS:
 June 19 v North Auckland (Whangarei)
 June 25 v Canterbury (Christchurch)
 July 2 v Third International (Dunedin)
 July 6 v Bay of Plenty (Napier)
 July 8 v Counties (Pukekohe)
 July 12 v Waikato (Hamilton)
 July 16 v Fourth International (Auckland)

Players, officials and tour itinerary

SCOTLAND: G Price (Pontypool and Wales).
ENGLAND: C T Pearce (Newport and Wales) and G P Fitzpatrick (St Mary's College and Ireland, captain).

WALES: M J Boyle (Gloucester and England), D G Woodward (Anglo-Wales and England), D G Lenihan (Moseley and Ireland), R L Norrie (Cardiff and Wales).

IRELAND: S H Coid (Stewart's Melville FP and Scotland), P J Headingley and P J O'Farrell (Bathurst and Ireland), J Squire (Pontypool and Wales).
FRANCE: J R Beattie (Glasgow Academics and Scotland), I A M Pennington (Cardiff and Scotland).
WALES: Mervyn Williams, W J McEvitt (Ireland), assistant manager and coach, J W Telfer (Scotland); doctor, D A D Macleod (Scotland); physiotherapist, K Murphy (England).

SPORT

BOXING

Bruno's jab will go to the hard school for further education

By Alan Hubbard

Sooner or later Frank Bruno will have to pick on someone nearer his own age and physique, but it is unlikely to be at the Albert Hall on May 31. This is when the Wandsorth heavyweight, unbeaten in 15 contests but with only 32 rounds of boxing behind him, is due to flex his remarkable muscles again.

However, his manager, Terry Lawless, says there may not be time to find a "suitable" opponent. By suitable presumably he means someone who offers stiffer resistance - stiff being an appropriate word as far as much of Bruno's opposition has been concerned.

The probability is that Bruno will have to go to another off-the-assembly-line punched out boxers, the latest old model, Scott Le Doux, duly having been crushed up in two and a half rounds at Wembley on Tuesday.

Certainly Bruno's potential, as verified by the former world champion Floyd Patterson, who believes he is the best boxer in the world, presents a match-making problem. The road to the world title is littered with the bruised ambitions of those who have been pushed too far too soon and Lawless is determined that Bruno will not fail by the wayside.

Big and strong as he is, with a left jab approaching the Lewis and Clark, Bruno is not yet developed enough to take on the better heavyweights. So who does he meet? Sadly, there are plenty of Le Doux and few up-and-comers of Bruno's kind.

The scarcity of good opposition is reflected throughout the division. You don't have to be great to be among the top at the moment," Patterson said as he left for New York yesterday. "Even Larry Holmes can't find anyone worth while to fight."

Clearly impressed with Bruno's

Fracas: inquiry date set

The British Boxing Board of Control will hold an inquiry on May 19 into the unsavoury scenes during and after the middleweight contest between the Londoner, Mark Taylor, and Bobby (Boogaloo) Waits, of the United States, at Wembley on Tuesday, Alan Hubbard writes. Both boxers have been charged with misconduct and Waits has been fined \$500 of his purse withheld.

The Board are concerned that the sport's reputation will come into disrepute by the fracas which followed the bell at the end of the first round, when the American Taylor had hit him low, and by the American's dissenting and threatening attitude towards the referee when the bout was stopped in Taylor's corner during the fourth round.

Taylor's manager, Terry Lawless, was also involved in the fray, when he went to the defence of the referee, Siki Nathan, and this sparked off a reaction from Taylor, who had to be restrained in a neutral corner. "I don't really blame Mark. It was just a natural reaction because he thought I was going to get a right-hander," Lawless said.

Taylor, now unbusted in 22 bouts, faces a caution or fine, but, unlike football, boxing has no automatic suspension so he will not be prevented from boxing at the Royal Albert Hall on May 31. It will probably be his last bout before he challenges for the British title held by Roy Gumble.

GOLF

Faldo in the swing for French mission

From Mitchell Platts, Versailles

Nick Faldo begins his 1983 campaign on the European circuit when he plays in the £56,000 French Open, sponsored by Paul Robson, which starts on the 10th. So far so good. He is certainly in a better frame of mind than when he was last in this country. That was little more than six months ago, when he competed in the Lancome Trophy with the shock waves still reverberating from his defeat the previous week by Sandy Lyle in the World Match-play Championship. Faldo lost after being six holes in front at the half way stage.

That match was regarded as yet another decider in the Faldo versus Lyle battle to become Britain's No 1 golfer. In truth it is a confrontation which cannot reach a conclusion until both players have completed their careers. Even so, the now good-natured rivalry that exists between them will provide plenty of excitement on British courses this year.

Faldo, who is taking a rest this year in company with several other leading players who feel that the French tax of 30 per cent on the prize-money is too big a price to pay, has started the season well with his win in Madrid. Faldo has more than recovered from that remarkable reversal at Wentworth by playing 11 tournaments in the United States this year. He has won in the region of \$33,000, which means that he is close to the total he will require to retain his position on the all-exempt tour.

What is more important is that Faldo is convinced that he has made several adjustments to his swing, which will enable him to take the

ATHLETICS

Thompson in second division

Dale Thompson, will take part in his first competition of the season when he takes part in four events for Newham and Essex Beagles in the British Athletics League, second division match at Cwmbran on Saturday. He will compete in the 100 metres, high hurdles, shot and one of the relays. It will be his first appearance in competition since he was forced to pull out of an indoor pentathlon event in Toronto, Canada in February because of a back injury.

He will visit a London back specialist next week for a check up, but has already cancelled plans to compete this month at Gotzis, Austria, where he set his first world record of last year. He plans to take part in at least one decathlon before the world athletics championships in Helsinki in August.

• Ron Tabb, Benji Durden and Ed Medina, who finished second, third and fourth in the Boston Marathon last month, will represent the United States in the world championship in Helsinki this summer.

Greg Meyer, the Boston champion, prefers to attempt the 10,000 metres while Alberto Slezar, holder of the world's fastest time, refused to run the British contingent.

• Steve Balmer has been denied longer tries for two wins in a row after his Italian Open success, and Mark James and Brian Waites are in the British contingent.

• Peter Lamer, of the British team, has been denied a place in the European tour by storm. He has

carefully watched Hal Sutton, the rising star on the United States tour, and noted that he keeps his right foot firmly on the ground throughout the swing. Though adopting a similar technique, Faldo is now aiming the full turn rather than the tilt, which has been his style since amateur days.

This week is an unscrupulous stop for Faldo. He was only contacted in Dallas on Saturday evening and asked if he would play after the withdrawal of Greg Norman because of injury. Faldo has never won on the continent, but the long La Bonté course should suit his game, although the same can be said for Sandy Lyle.

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RUGBY UNION

Final merit tables

NORTHERN DIVISION

MIDLAND DIVISION

LONDON DIVISION

SOUTH AND SW DIVISION

WELSH DIVISION

SCOTTISH DIVISION

IRISH DIVISION

PROFESSIONAL DIVISION

INTERNATIONAL

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

WORLD CUP

WORLD CUP</

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Daville

BBC 1

TV-am

6.00 *Breakfast AM*: Whatever kind of TV set you have, you can receive the service of information about the news, sport, weather and traffic. Tightly sub-edited, and not as well known as it ought to be.

6.30 *Breakfast Time*: Frank Bough and Nick Ross are the presenters. Includes news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; Sport at 6.42, 7.18 and 8.18; *Keep fit* (between 6.45 and 7.00); *Tonight's TV* (7.15-7.30); *Morning papers* (7.32 and 8.32); *Horoscope* (8.38-8.45); *This is America* (7.45-8.00). Closedown at 9.00.

10.10 *For Schools, Colleges*: Twigs and wood; 10.32 *Epidemic*; 11.30 *Wales and the Americas*; 11.50 *Closedown*.

12.30 *News after Noon*: 12.57 *Financial Report*. And subtitled news headlines.

1.00 *Pebble Mill at One*: The lunchtime chat and music show from the foyer-studio; 1.45 *Gran*; 1.50 *Stop Go!* 2.00 *You and Me*; 2.15 *For Schools, Colleges*: *Music Time*; 2.40 *Computer Club*.

3.00 *Inside Story*: *Diver*. A film about the tough training of divers who will work on the North Sea oil rigs. They acquire their skills at Fort Bovisand in Plymouth (from *BC2*).

3.55 *Play School*: the story of Mr Ford, the butcher (also on *BC2*, at 11.00am); 4.20 *The Drak Pack* cartoon; 4.40 *Heidi*: Episode 5 of this 26-part serialization of the children's classic (r).

5.05 *Newsworld*: with John Craven; 5.15 *Blue Peter*: Expert climbers Stu Thompson and John James shows Peter Duncan the best way to tackle *Wintour's Leap*, a limestone escarpment with a frightening 21ft drop.

5.40 *News*: with Moya Sturz; 6.00 *South East at Six*; 6.22 *Nationwide*: The young would-be actors at the Italia Conti School prepare for their Christmas show. Plus Sue Lawley's correspondence spot.

6.45 *Tomorrow's World*: Includes the latest idea in selling – with a windmill. And how to process your own slides in a matter of minutes. Also, laser beams that make music.

7.10 *Top of the Pops*: The 1000th edition – live from the Television Centre, all the Radio 1 disc jockeys will be in the studio. We see archive film of some of the earlier shows and there will be special guests (you can hear the same show, in stereo, on *Radio 1*).

8.00 *Fame*: Further happenings at the New York High School for the Performing Arts. Lydia (Debbie Allen) is smitten by a visiting Broadway star.

8.50 *Points of View*: *Barry Took*, in his idiosyncratic way, replies to viewers' letters.

9.00 *News*: with Michael Buerk. And weather.

9.25 *Just*: Episode 5 (of 13) of this drama series about the individual jury members at a rape trial. Tonight *David Farrell* (David Simson), owner of a chemical firm in financial trouble, has to resort to unethical methods in an effort to be released from jury service.

10.20 *Question Time*: with Michael Foot, Michael Heseltine, David Steel and Ann Leslie. The man in the middle: Sir Robin Day. 11.15 *News*.

11.20 *Everyone's A Winner*: Me. Another chance to see this moving film about the well-loved Victorian hymn; 11.55 *Weather*.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 *For Schools*: *Pond life*; 9.47 *Basic Maths*; 10.04 *Middle English*; 10.21 *The developing body*; 10.38 *Search for Solutions*; 11.10 *Picture Box*; 11.18 *History Around You*; 11.35 *Classroom computers*.

12.00 *News from ITN*: 12.57 *Financial Report*. And subtitled news headlines.

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12.25 *Clothes*: *Sian Phillips* reads a poem by Robert Browning.

● British television is not so richly endowed with good comedians that we can afford to minimize the importance of the advent on our screens of a remarkable young entertainer called MICHAEL BARRYMORE, the second of whose music and comedy shows, put together by Thames Television, you can see tonight (Thames, 8.00). Mr Barrymore is what in the golden days of stand-up comedians, we used to call a "natural", even an "original". He starts off with the physical advantage of being made of India-rubber, or something very much like it. He "plays" with an audience in a highly productive way (one of the best of tonight's situations builds up to a whipping away a box of chocolates from a member of the audience), and when he is well served by his triumvirate of scriptwriters (Eric

Davidson, Spike Milligan and Sid Green) – in tonight's show, there is a friendly trick routine involving a new interpretation of our traffic signs – he tackles his lines with such verve and relish that we really do begin to doubt whether the jokes that come bubbling out of him are the inventions of someone else's brain. But, like all comedians, he has his limitations. Michael Barrymore does not sing well.

● The week's convulsions in Island could not have been better timed for a *Channel 4* comedy slot. *Island* (4.30pm, BBC1) is concerned. It matters little that the story is laid not in a Polish city but in

December 1981. The shock waves from the Solidarity epicentre are independent of both time and distance.

● It came as no surprise whatsoever to me to learn that Cherry Cookson's production of *Martyn Ware's* radio play about the Australian composer Percy Grainger, *OVER THE HILLS AND FAR AWAY*, first broadcast last December and repeated tonight on Radio 3 at 8.00, had won the Sony radio award for best drama production. It is a seamless patchwork of dramatized biography, psychological casebook (its revelations about the strange sexual blooms in Grainger's English country garden come as something of a shock) and musical analysis, and it grips like a velvet-lined vice right up to its brilliant multi-layered climax.

December Music, 11.05 in the News, 11.30 Music in the News, 11.55 Why Does You Call, 12.00 The Listening Corner, 2.30-3.00 for Schools; 2.00 Living Languages, 2.20 Radio Geography, 2.40 Exploring Society, 5.50-5.55 PM (continued), 11.30 Study on 4: Another Door Opens, 11.30-12.10 am Open University.

11.45-12.00 Modern Art Cubism [2].

Radio 2

5.00am *Ray Moore* 17.30 *Teletext*; 6.00am *John Reid* 17.30 *Teletext*; 6.30am *While You Work* 12.30 *Gloria Hunniford* including 2.02 *Sports Desk*; 2.45, 3.45 *Racing* from Chester; 4.00 *David Hamilton* including 4.02, 5.30 *Sports Desk*; 6.00 *John Dunn* including 6.45 *Sport* and *Carried Hearts* 7.28 *Checkers*; 8.00 *Annabel* 8.30 *News*; 8.30 *Country Court* 8.15 *World News Headlines* with Roy Hudd; 10.30 *Brian Matthew* presents *Round Midnight* (Stereo from midnight); 1.00am *When Housewives Had The Choice* 2.00-3.00 *Patrick Lumley* presents *She and the Night and the Moon*.

Radio 3

5.55 *Weather*.

7.00 *News*.

7.05 *Morning Concert*, Mandelsohn (Cain Sea and Prosperous Voyage), Ireland (Pants on the Wall, from Mass in A), *Elgar*, records.

8.00 *Morning Concert* (continued) Händel, Albinoni (Oboe Concerto in D minor), Op 9 No 2, *Humffred*, records.

8.05 *News*.

8.15 *Morning Concert* (continued) Hendel, Albinoni (Oboe Concerto in D minor), Op 9 No 2, *Humffred*, records.

8.20 *News*.

8.25 *News*.

8.30 *Morning Concert* (continued) Brahms, records, includes *Piano Quintet in F minor* Op 34.1.

10.00 *Los Angeles Chamber News*.

10.15 *News*.

10.35 *Real Test* (Song recital): Schubert, Roger, Wilhelm, *Wolfgang*.

11.25 *Music*: *Music* (Concerto for Double Bass and Piano) and *Beethoven* (Double-bass Concerto) and *Beethoven* (Symphony No 6).

1.00 *News*.

1.05 *Music* (Lunchtime Concert from St. George's, Brandon Hill).

1.15 *News*.

1.20 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

1.25 *News*.

1.30 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

1.35 *News*.

1.40 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

1.45 *News*.

1.50 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

1.55 *News*.

1.58 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

2.00 *News*.

2.05 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

2.10 *News*.

2.15 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

2.20 *News*.

2.25 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

2.30 *News*.

2.35 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

2.40 *News*.

2.45 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

2.50 *News*.

2.55 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

2.58 *News*.

2.59 *Music* (Piano Concerto).

2.59 *News*.

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Stern hits back at diary critics

Continued from page 1

At this time Hitler was planning the invasion of Poland, codenamed "Operation White". On July 12 he noted: "The last few days I studied the plans for Operation White over and over. This plan must now be ready. I believe everything has been considered. Have also spoken with Hess again. As soon as he has thought it all through thoroughly, he will let me know. Would not have believed it of Hess, not of Hess."

Ten days later Hitler, then staying at Berghof, his mountain retreat, wrote: "Have Göring here once again. Inquire cautiously what the range of our best aeroplanes is."

"Conversation with Hess. Tell him about my talk with Göring. Hess says a special plane would have to be built. He is already working on the design. What a fellow. He does not want anything about his plan to be said to Göring from now on."

On August 8, 1939, Churchill said on the radio that no one apart from Hitler was going to make war, and the next day Hitler wrote:

"When I read the text of yesterday's speech by Churchill, I know at once who the greatest poisoner in London is. Now I can understand why thinks Churchill must be bypassed or eliminated."

On August 15 Hitler remarked: "Inquire again of Hess how far along he is with his plan."

Stern says that after that Hitler was then preoccupied with the Non-Aggression Pact with Russia and the outbreak of war. It leaves his account of the Hess affair — which will continue next week — with Hess's reported remarks that Germany did not want to capture thousands of British soldiers at Dunkirk because this could humiliate England and

make a peace treaty more difficult.

The publication of the Hitler diaries comes after two weeks of angry exchanges throughout the world about their authenticity, and today Stern hits back strongly at its critics. In a toughly worded leading article, Herr Peter Koch, the magazine's editor, suggests there were political motives behind the accusations and doubts levelled at Stern.

Of Lord Dacre's change of opinion, which Stern strongly attacks, Herr Koch writes: "Is Trevor-Roper perhaps following the disinformation policy of his earlier employers at MI6 because Britain finds details of the Hess case unpleasant? Was there a secret plot, supposed to be kept quiet, in which aristocratic Britons conspired with Hess against war Premier Churchill?"

Herr Koch also pours scorn on charges that the diaries are forgeries. "Maybe the nationalistic *Figaro* does not like memories to be revived again of those years in which France's politicians through their weakness helped to bring about Hitler's rise."

"Maybe the English know only too well why they have locked up certain files such as those on the Hess case until 2017. And it is convenient for Moscow to present the Hitler diaries as forgeries as long as they do not know what the Brown (Nazi) dictator noted down over his secret agreement with the red dictator, Stalin, at the cost of the Poles."

Herr Koch is present in the United States with Herr Wolf-Rüdiger Hess, son of Rudolf Hess. He said that Stern had called on Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, to intervene with the four allied powers to allow Rudolf Hess to be allowed to look at the diaries from his prison cell in Berlin.



End of a kidnap: Dallas police acted swiftly to free the wife and two daughters of a bank manager after they were seized at gunpoint by a hooded extortionist. Storming the kidnapper's car, they rescued first one daughter (top-left), then the other (top-right) before finally arresting the kidnapper (bottom).

Doctor and patient obsessed by Hitler's intestinal troubles

By Our Medical Correspondent

One of the characteristics of egocentric politicians is a determined faith in bizarre doctors and unorthodox treatment. Mr David Irving, in his book in the diaries of Dr Theo Morell, shows that Hitler in choosing him as his medical adviser against all advice, demonstrated this trait.

The diaries have re-emerged from an agency in Washington

to which they were loaned in 1946. Mr Irving has had the cooperation of Dr Morell's widow in their publication.

The recorded observations show that Hitler aged rapidly during the war.

There is general agreement that he suffered from a mild to moderate high blood pressure, an enlarged heart, and both a consultant cardiologist and Dr Morell agreed that the electrocardiograph showed obvious

evidence of narrowing of the coronary arteries.

The handwriting recently exhibited as being Hitler's is so characteristic of Parkinsonism that this aspect of his health has recently achieved even greater importance.

The description of the shake

— which mainly affected his left leg and right arm — is stoop, his way of walking, and photographs of his expression, would support the diagnosis of Parkinsonism.

Hitler's other great problem was his gastrointestinal tract. Today the diagnosis would probably be an irritable bowel syndrome. As in the 1940s

treatment is still unsatisfactory, but few patients could have suffered such a battery of treatment as Dr Morell prescribed for Hitler.

Hormones, vitamins, morphine-substitutes, scopolamine, sulphonamides, belladonna, mercury, intravenous glucose, injections of calcium all were tried, in vain, for his intestines continued to respond to stress rather than the doctor's measures.

Doctor and patient were

obsessed by his bowels, his flatulence and his abdominal pain. Hitler wisely refused enemas or other invasive treatment, but unfortunately also refused X-ray examination.

Dr Geising, another and more orthodox member of Hitler's medical team, records that Hitler contrary to wartime jokes, had normal genitalia. The tests for syphilis, too, were negative.

Adolf Hitler: The Medical Diaries (By David Irving, Sidgwick & Jackson, £10.95).

Leading entries for the Oriental Museum design competition, School of Oriental Studies, Durham University, Elvet Hill; Mon to Fri

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Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visit Royal Air Force Coltishall, Norfolk, 10.35.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Grand Master of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators, attends the Guild's Annual Dinner at Fishmongers' Hall, EC4, 6.30.

The Duke of Gloucester opens the Building Conservation Trust's Care of Buildings Exhibition at Hampton Court Palace, Surrey, 3.

Princess Alexandra lays the

foundation stone for new junior classrooms to mark the centenary of Emanuel School's move to its present buildings at Battersea Rise, SW11, 2.15.

New exhibitions

Ceramics by Henry Hammond and paintings by Lescot Musgrave, at the Spring Fair, well hanging, Oxford Galleries, 23 High Street, Oxford; Mon to Sat 10 to 6 (until June 1).

Textile Images: Work of the Glassow School of Art Embroidery, Collins Gallery, Strathclyde University, Richmond Street, Glasgow; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 12 to 4 (from today until May 18).

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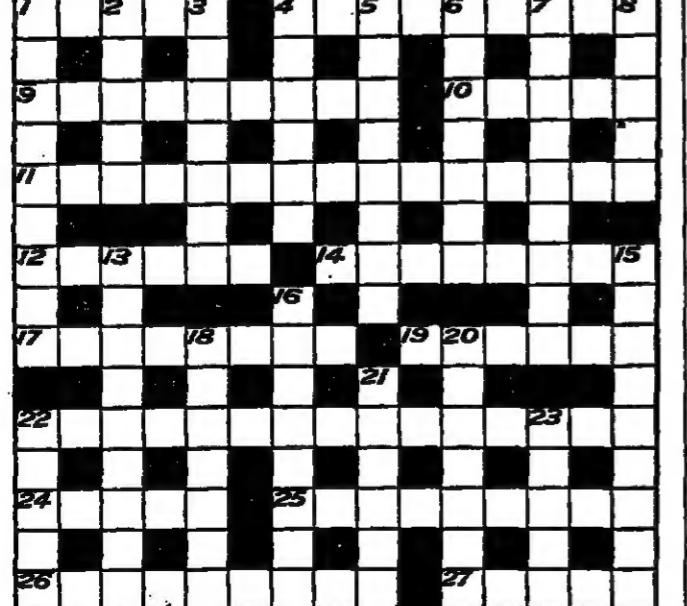
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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,121



Solution of Puzzle No 16,120

ACROSS

1. Meet nurse for a poetic child (Scott) (5).

2. Plea of shaggy dogs heard in Milton's verses? (5).

3. Cut ridge on making diversion (7).

4. Hopper of pot — that's right (6).

5. French wine angels consumed, (2).

6. How to move a bishop, or Elijah at last? (5).

7. Like mourners making hait about ten perhaps (5).

8. Auburn victim of the tyrant's power (8,7).

9. Sort of cash point (7).

10. Rock on under way off Fenchurch Street (9).

11. The pub in New Place is the very top (8).

12. Sort of endearment that isn't genuine (6).

13. Queen sort, Mr French, to behave so violently (5).

14. Danger lurking in paradise (5, 2, 3).

15. An antelope's ring-bone, one concluded (5).

16. Study art the wrong way, lot of trouble for a singer (5).

17. Dominion holding on to religious establishment (9).

18. Part of church where ale is brewed? (5).

DOWN

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